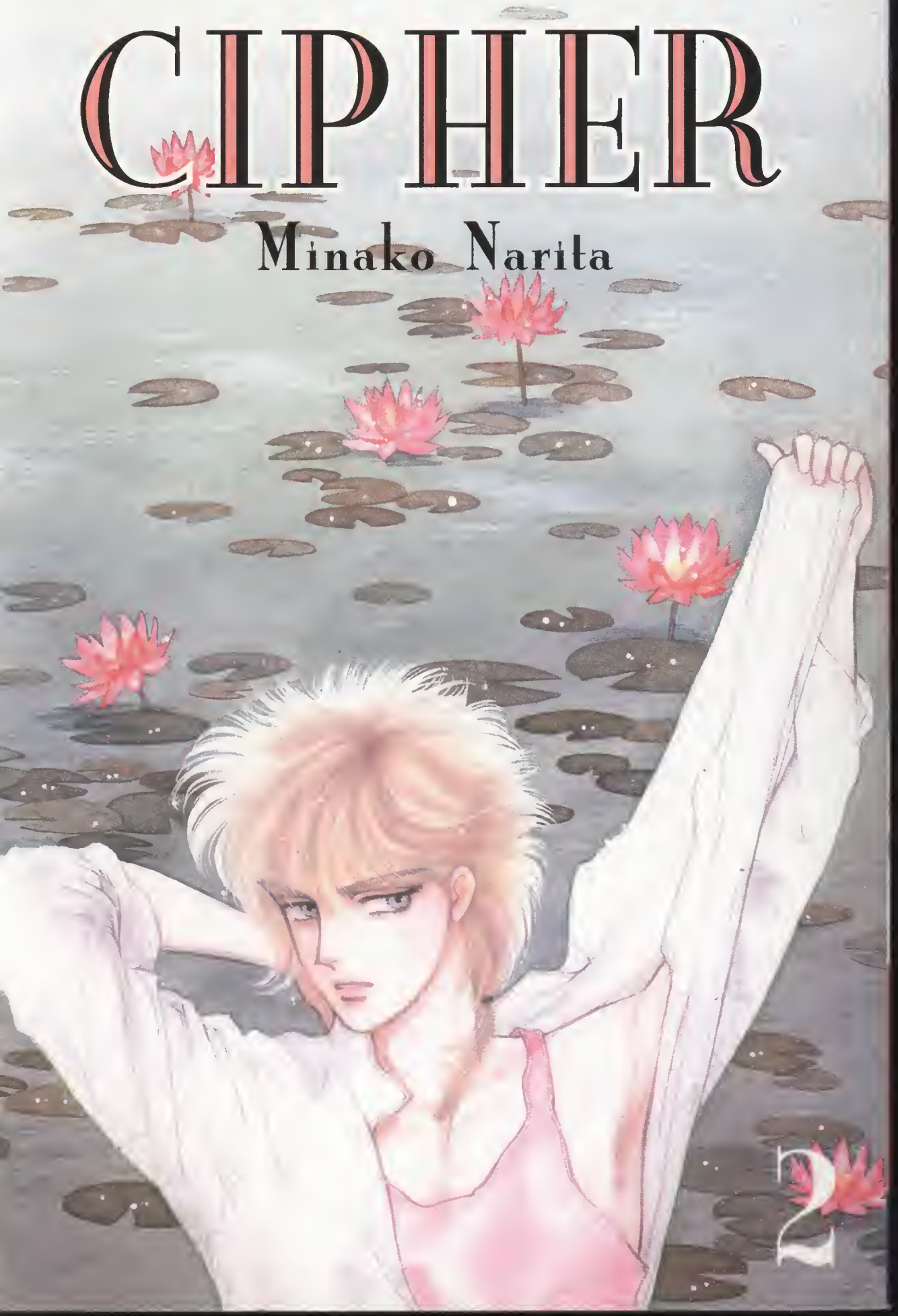
Aeternitas-Scans
Do NOT share outside of IRC.

CIPHER

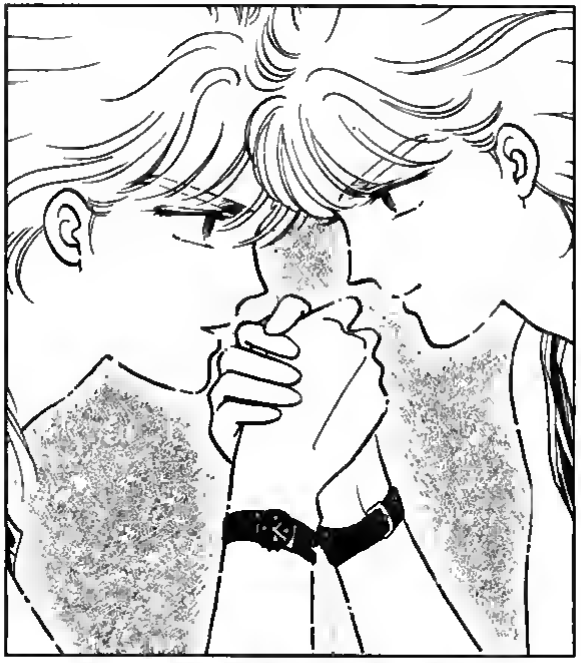
Minako Narita



2

CIPHER

Vol. 2

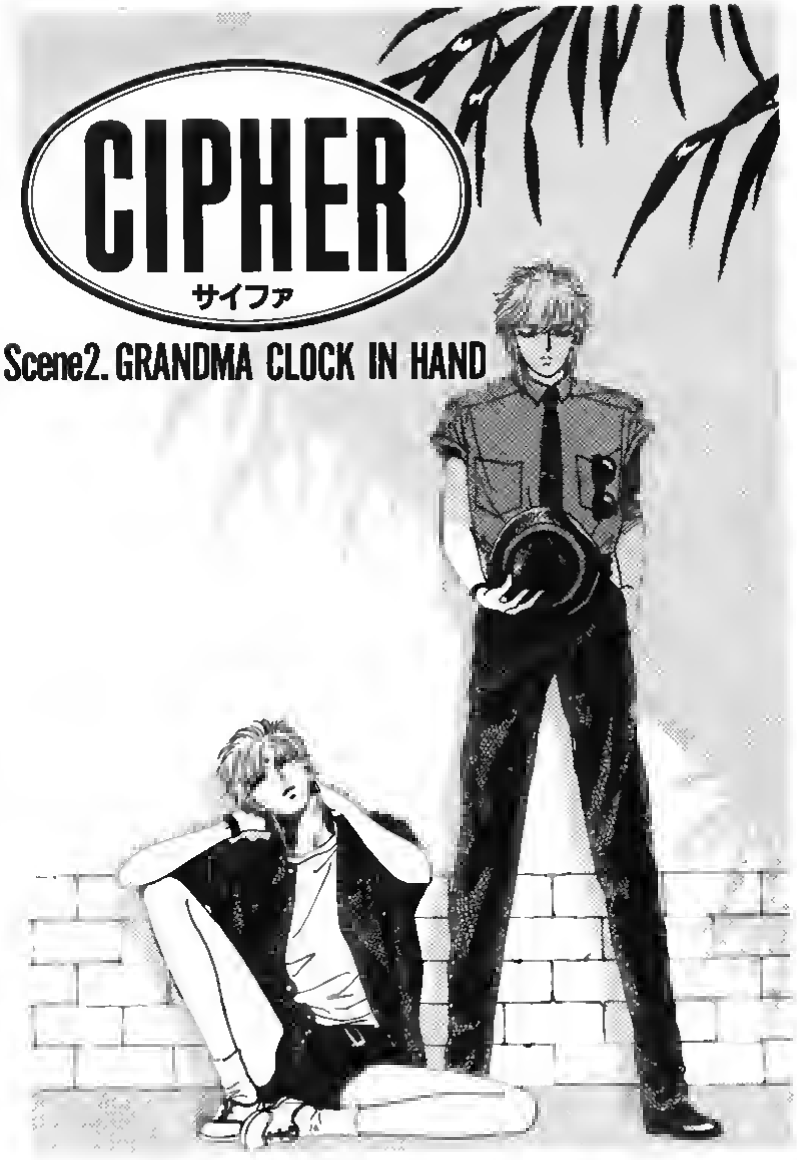


by Minako Narita

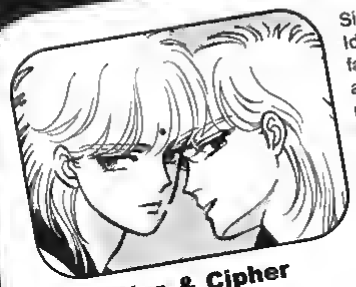
CIPHER

サイファ

Scene2. GRANDMA CLOCK IN HAND



CIPHER BIOS



Siva & Cipher

Siva (Jake) & Cipher (Roy): Identical twin brothers made famous by their childhood acting success. Now, they share not just a face, but a single identity. Trading off attending school and acting auditions, it is nearly impossible to tell them apart. Or is it?

Anise

Schoolmate of Siva (and Cipher) She is intrigued by their shared identity and becomes closer to the twins to discover the purpose of their secret.

Rob

Anise's dad, who she lives with. He is very supportive of everything his daughter does, and reluctantly allows her to move in with the twins to satisfy her curiosity

Jessica

Anise's mother. A dead ringer for Madonna, she takes care of Anise's brother Martin. Even though Anise lives with her dad, she and her mom remain close

HELLO!!
NARITA HERE. IN THE OFFICE WE CAN'T DO WITHOUT MUSIC. NOT ONLY DOES IT PUT US IN A GOOD MOOD IT INSPIRES A LOT OF IDEAS. MUSIC MAGAZINES ARE A RESOURCE FOR US. THE CLOTHES, THE POSES -- THEY'RE ALL SO COOL.
TO CREATE CIPHER AND SIVA'S CHARACTERS, WE TOOK IMAGE FROM LIMAHL AND TOM BAILEY.

THE BEAUTIFUL TOM BAILEY

LIMAHL LONG AGO

SO, AS HOMAGE TO MINAKO'S FAVORITE MUSICIANS, I'LL DRAW CARICATURES OF CIPHER AND SIVA POSING LIKE THEM. THE BACKGROUND MUSIC IS "LAY YOUR HANDS ON ME."
LET'S TRY IT NOW!!

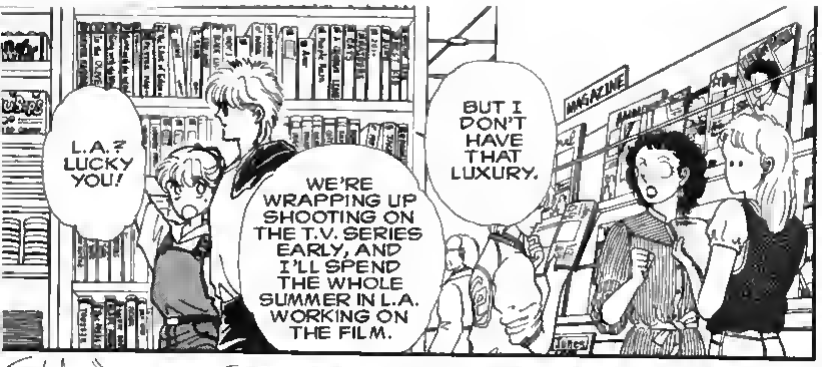
A SPECIAL

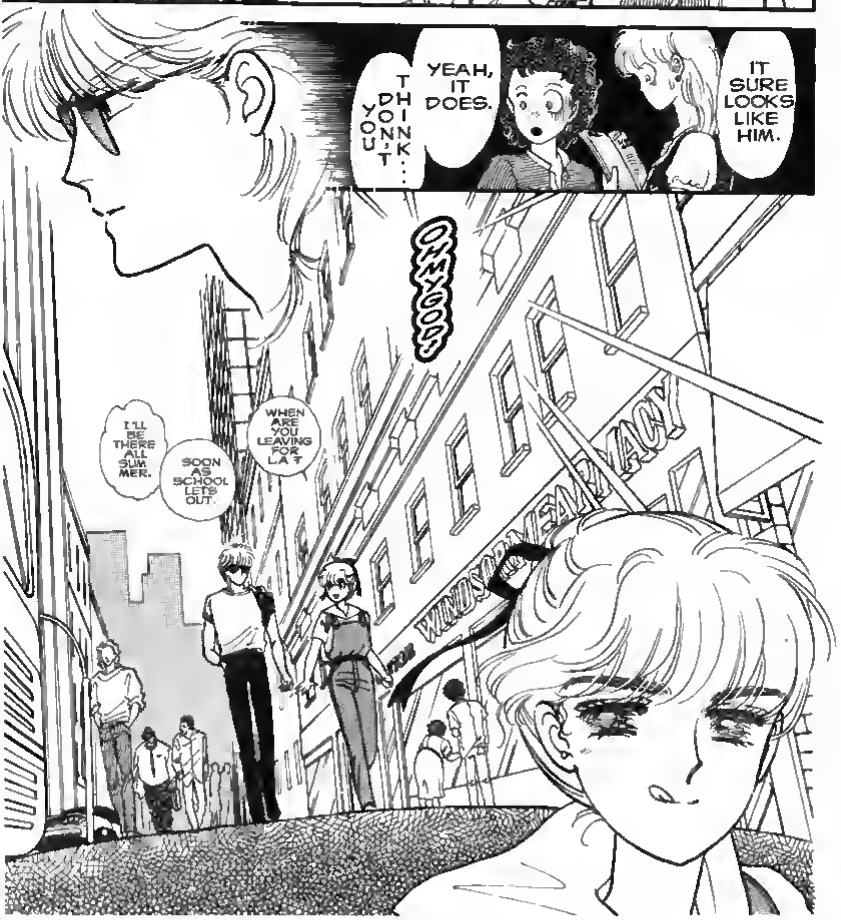
SIVA

Q & A

Real Name: Jake Rang
Birth date: February 4th
17 years old.
Birthplace: Brooklyn, N Y
Height & Weight: 6'2", 143 lbs
Hair & Eye Color: Dirty blonde, gray eyes
Home: A two-bedroom apartment in Manhattan

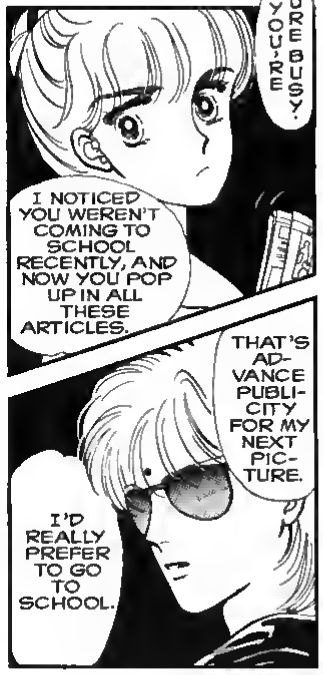
Favorites
Movie: Never Ending Story
Actor: Bill Murray
Food: Vegetarian pizza
Hobby: Flea market shopping
Pets: A cat named Elly


L.A.? LUCKY YOU!
WE'RE WRAPPING UP SHOOTING ON THE T.V. SERIES EARLY, AND I'LL SPEND THE WHOLE SUMMER IN L.A. WORKING ON THE FILM.
BUT I DON'T HAVE THAT LUXURY.
MAGAZINE


YOU DON'T THINK...
YEAH, IT DOES.
IT SURE LOOKS LIKE HIM.
OMIGOD!
I'LL BE THERE ALL SUMMER.
SOON AS SCHOOL LETS OUT
WHEN ARE YOU LEAVING FOR L.A.?

WHY DON'T WE GET BOTH?
YEAH!
WE WANT 'EM BOTH, RIGHT?
PRINCE

HI.
PRINCE


YOU'RE SURE BUSY.
I NOTICED YOU WEREN'T COMING TO SCHOOL RECENTLY, AND NOW YOU POP UP IN ALL THESE ARTICLES.
THAT'S ADVANCE PUBLICITY FOR MY NEXT PICTURE.
I'D REALLY PREFER TO GO TO SCHOOL.

SORRY I KEPT YOU WAITING.
THE MEETING WENT OVER.

THOMPSON TWINS
TOM
ALANNA
JOE
NO.
IT MAKES IT EASIER TO EXPLAIN THIS.
DID YOU CONVERT?
THAT MAGAZINE ARTICLE SAID THAT SIVA IS A VEGETARIAN.
I'D UNDERSTAND IF YOU WERE REALLY A VEGETARIAN.
IT'S RATHER BOTHERSOME TO PAINT ON A BINDI EVERY DAY, ISN'T IT? YOU MUST BE PRETTY DILIGENT.
BUT YOU HAVE TO GET THE RIGHT BALANCE OF MEAT, FISH AND VEGETABLES.
EVER SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, HUMANS HAVE BEEN EATING FISH AND MEAT.
IT'S UNNATURAL TO BE A VEGETARIAN!

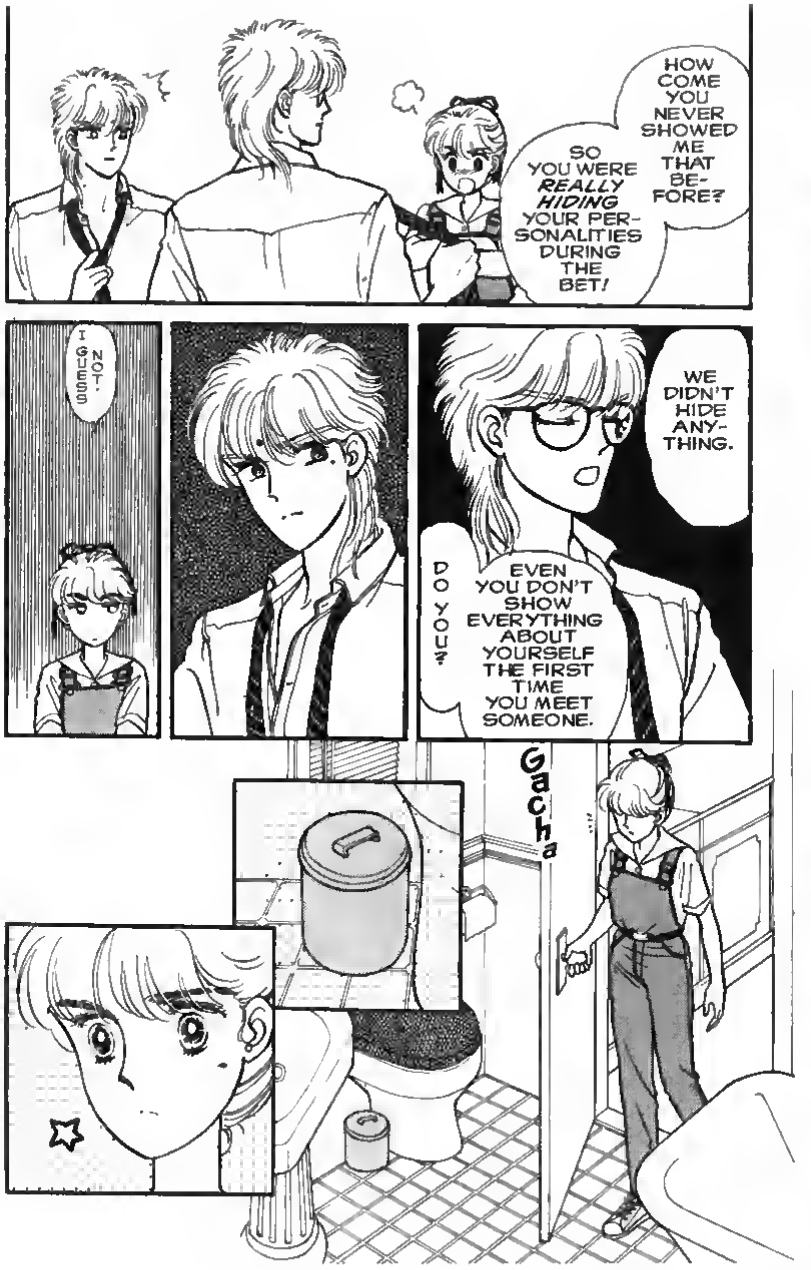
HEY, JAKE. DID YOU JUST GET UP?
I DIDN'T GET TO SLEEP UNTIL DAWN.
BAM
BULBUCH
YOU'RE BACK!
ABSORBED IN A BOOK AGAIN?
Left. Siva (Jake)
Right Cipher (Roy)
glug
PSHT
IT'S HOT TODAY.
I NEED A BEER.
KACHUK
GET ME ONE, TOO.
hee hee
I'VE GOTTEN PRETTY GOOD AT TELLING THEM APART.
HEH!

OH, YEAH.
LIKE THIS?
THE FULL SPLITS.
WHAT ABOUT THAT THING PRINCE DOES?
shuffle
EH?
shuffle
UH..
-SCUSE ME.
WOW!
YEAH!
THAT'S MY SPECIALTY.
WANT ME TO TEACH YOU?
KEEPING THE FAITH!
AND HOW ABOUT BILLY JOEL?
YEAH, THAT ONE!

We are the world...
HE'S GOING INTO MICHAEL JACKSON MODE AGAIN!
GACK!
oven mitts
THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD BE THAT COOL!
DREAM ON.
HUH?
.... PLOP
MICHAEL JACKSON

INSTEAD OF WASTING MY TIME TRYING TO KEEP UP.
THIS WAY, I CAN SIT BACK AND WATCH.
Yeah Yeah Yeah
Say goodbye to the Oldies but
still took tough anyway
OKAY!
HOW?
LET'S LET MTV BE THE D.J.
HE HAS TO DANCE TO WHATEVER VIDEO COMES NEXT.

OKAY.
LET'S START FROM HERE.
NO! LIKE THIS!
HUH?
?
Yeah yeah Keeping the faith
I'LL PLAY THE TAPES.
NOW, SHOW ME THE WHOLE THING.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
AH, GIVE IT UP.
I'M WASTING YOUR TIME.


HOW COME YOU NEVER SHOWED ME THAT BEFORE?
SO YOU WERE REALLY HIDING YOUR PERSONALITIES DURING THE BET!
WE DIDN'T HIDE ANYTHING.
EVEN YOU DON'T SHOW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOURSELF THE FIRST TIME YOU MEET SOMEONE.
DO YOU?
NOT, I GUESS.
Gacha

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
EURYTHMICS
PHIL COLLINS
YOU GUYS ARE AMAZING! THAT WAS INCREDIBLE! THAT WAS GREAT!
THANK YOU, THANK YOU.
OH, KNOCK IT OFF.
WOW!

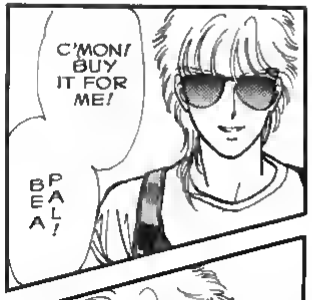
New Flavor
YOU ARE AWFUL QUIET, CIPHER. WHAT ARE YOU WATCHING?
YUP.
REALLY? GREAT! WHICH ONE'S GOING? IT'S CIPHER'S TURN, RIGHT?
NAH, TOMORROW'S A SCHOOL DAY.
HEY, SIVA.
I CAN'T HEAR A WORD YOU'RE SAYING.
KNOCK IT OFF WITH THE SUNGLASSES.
HEY, HEY, HEY, BRO!
BUY IT FOR ME, WILL YA?
?
CLAP!

HERE'S THE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER.
STILL HAVE WORK TOMORROW? SKIPPING SCHOOL?
OH, WELL. I'LL LET THEM THINK THEY FOOLED ME.
tee hee

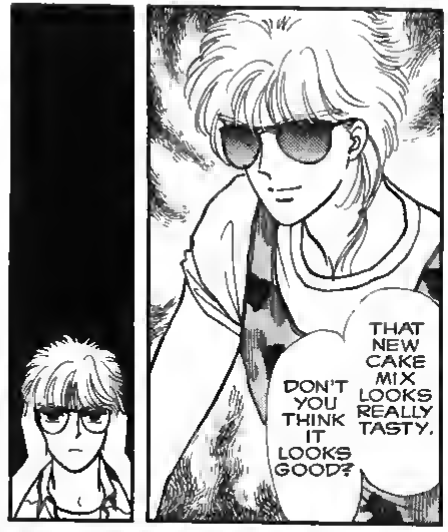
I JUST WANT TO GIVE IT A TRY, C'MON, JAKE. JUST ONE BOX.
DARN RIGHT I'M NOT! YOU DON'T NEED IT!
SO YOU'RE REALLY NOT GONNA DO IT?!

YEAH.
DO YOU CONTROL THE PURSE STRINGS, SIVA?

ALL I WANT IS A BOX OF CAKE MIX!
WHERE'D THAT MIKE COME FROM?
SOMETIMES CIPHER FALLS IN LOVE WITH BATHROOM FIXTURES OR WHATNOT.
IF HE COULD, HE'D SPEND US BLIND IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE.
YEAH. THEN HE COMPLETELY REDECORATES THE PLACE.
Cipher's purchases
more new stuff
I'M NOT THE ONE BUYING ALL THE NEW ELECTRONICS!
HEY, THAT'S NOT TRUE!

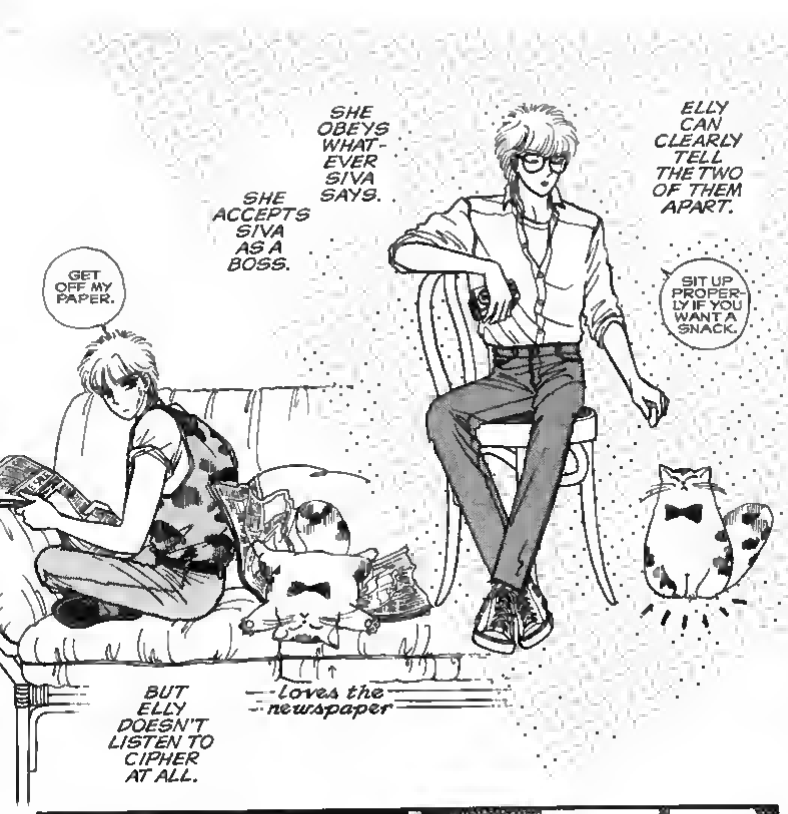

C'MON! BUY IT FOR ME!
BE A PAL!

I HEAR NOTHING NOTHING!


THAT NEW CAKE MIX LOOKS REALLY TASTY.
DON'T YOU THINK IT LOOKS GOOD?

DON'T BE A JERK. JUST BUY IT ALREADY.
IS THAT HOW YOU TREAT SOMEONE ASKING YOU A FAVOR?
YOU HEARD EVERY WORD, DIDN'T YOU?

NO WAY!
C'MON, BRO! BUY ME THE CAKE MIX. PLEASE!
please, please, please!

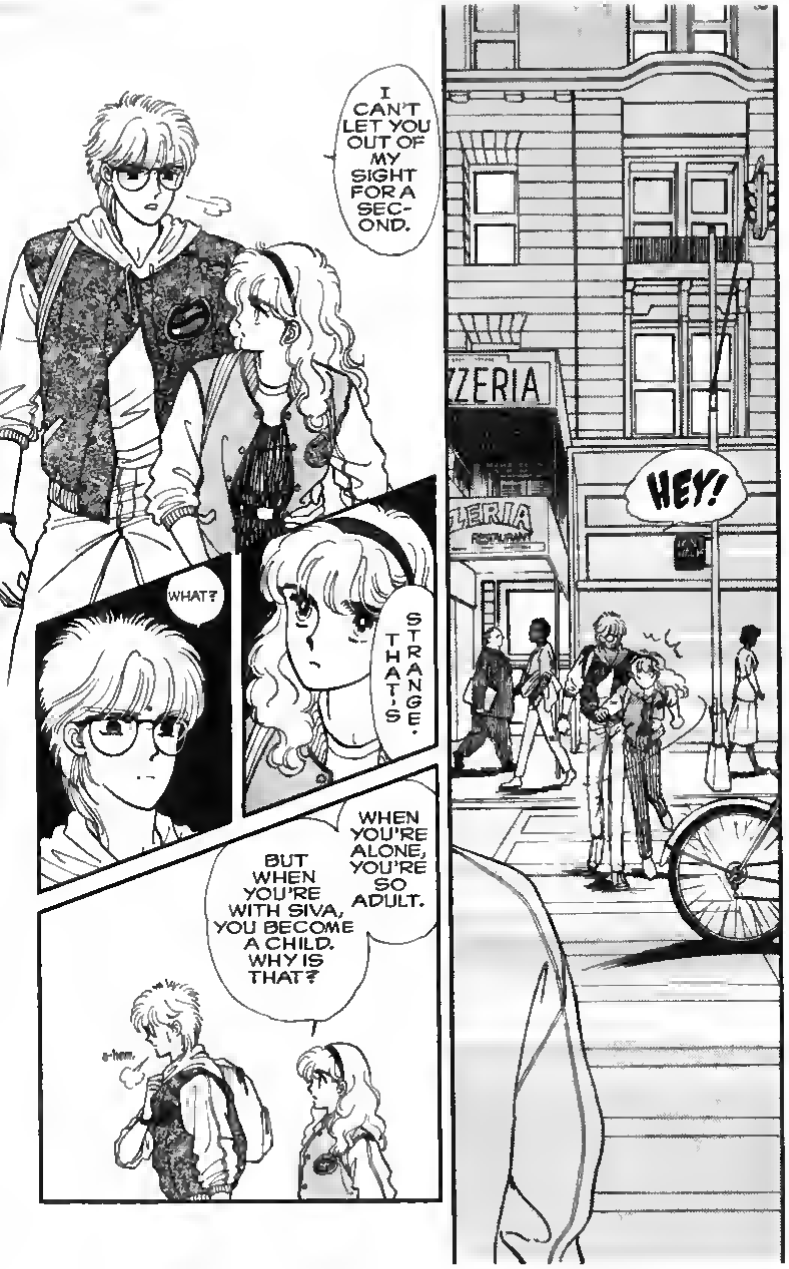

GET OFF MY PAPER.
SHE ACCEPTS SIVA AS A BOSS.
SHE OBEYS WHATEVER SIVA SAYS.
ELLY CAN CLEARLY TELL THE TWO OF THEM APART.
SIT UP PROPERLY IF YOU WANT A SNACK.
loves the newspaper
BUT ELLY DOESN'T LISTEN TO CIPHER AT ALL.

AND CIPHER FAVORS HIS RIGHT.
BUT SIVA FAVORS HIS LEFT HAND.
THEY'RE BOTH AMBIDEXTROUS.

CIPHER PREFERS T.V. DRAMAS.
SIVA PREFERS TO READ BOOKS.

SEE?
I'M JUST WATCHING OUT FOR YOUR HEALTH.
BUT THAT STUFF IS JUNK FOOD.
LISTEN UP, ROY!
IF IT WAS SOMETHING GOOD FOR YOU, I'D BE ALL FOR IT.

GOOD.
ALL RIGHT, JAKE.


I CAN'T LET YOU OUT OF MY SIGHT FOR A SECOND.
WHAT?
THAT'S STRANGE.
WHEN YOU'RE ALONE, YOU'RE SO ADULT.
BUT WHEN YOU'RE WITH SIVA, YOU BECOME A CHILD. WHY IS THAT?
a-hem.
ZERIA
HEY!

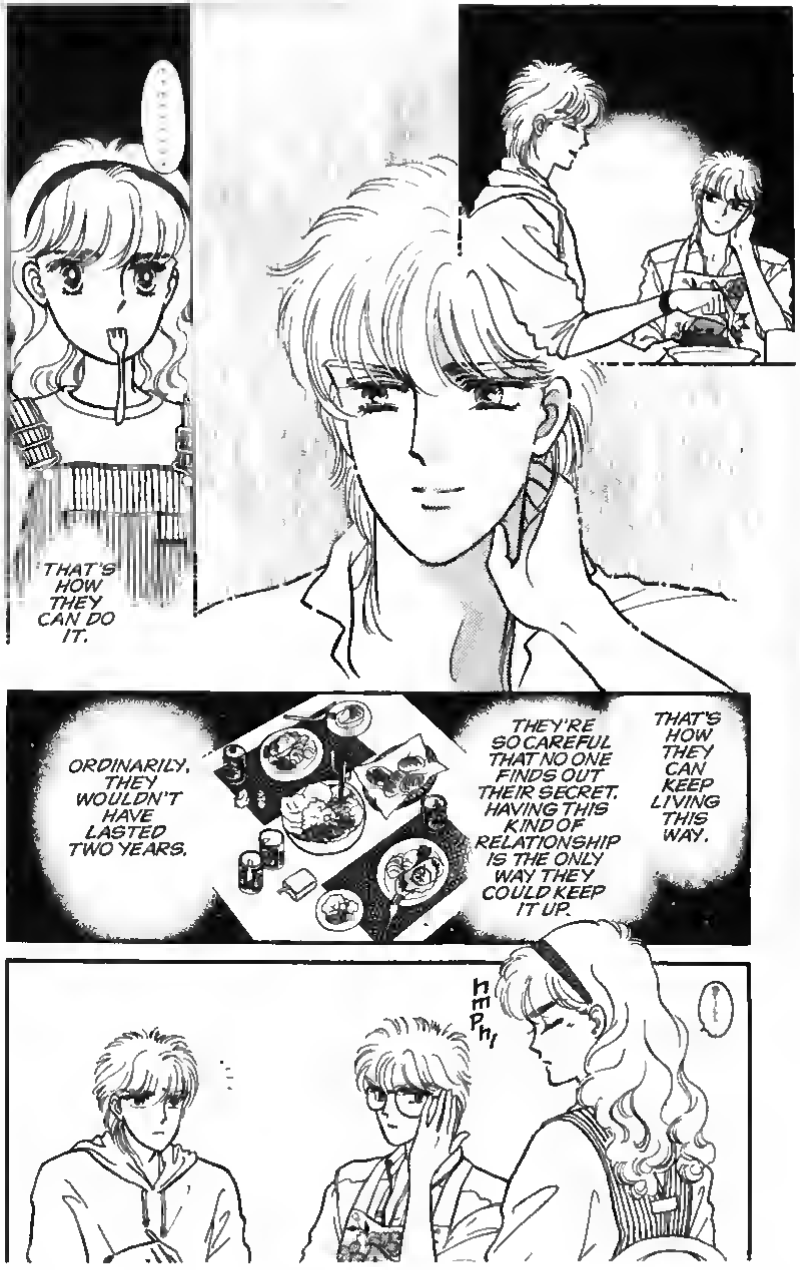
CIPHER IS THE ONE WHO LAUGHS AT HIS OWN STORIES.
YES, HOW VERY AMUSING.
SHE SPILLED HER MILK DISH, AND...
heh
BY THE WAY, JAKE.
DID YOU SEE WHAT ELLY DID?
SIVA DOES STRANGE THINGS OUT OF THE BLUE
THERE'S A SWIRL IN YOUR HAIR.
POKE
nonchalant
?
?
OKAY, I WON'T TELL YOU.
HEY, I'M SORRY.
GO ON, TELL ME.
GRADUALLY, THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THEM ARE BECOMING CLEARER.

WE'RE HOME!
SLAM
.....
WHEN SIVA SAID NO, HE REALLY WAS THINKING ABOUT MY BEST INTERESTS.
THANKS.
SO I DON'T NEED IT.
SOME-THING SMELLS GOOD.
Mmm!
HEY, YOU.
JUST THIS ONCE.

OH. I SEE.
WHEN SIVA'S AROUND, HE'S SO MEAN THAT IT WARPS ME.
FROM THE GOSSIP MAGAZINES, YOU'D NEVER IMAGINE SIVA WAS LIKE THIS.
HEH
PLEASE BUY ME THE CAKE MIX!
I GUESS WE SORT OF DIVIDE UP THE ROLES.
WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER SINCE BEFORE WE WERE BORN.
THANKS. BUT NO THANKS.
OH, CI-PHER. I'LL BUY THE CAKE MIX, IF YOU WANT.

.....
AREN'T YOU HAVING ANY?
NO, I'M NOT.
I'M SO HAPPY YOU DID THIS!
THIS IS GREAT!
YUM!
SHUT UP AND EAT IT.
HOW SWEET WAS THAT?
.....
USED TO IT.
UM!
Pah
HUG
JAKE!
I'M SORRY I SAID THAT YOU WERE MEAN!
I LOVE YOU, JAKE!
AHH!!
Pah
WAIT! I'M SORRY!
Ahh!
YOU SAID THAT?
WELL, YEAH.
.....
SLUMP
PSYCHE!

hm...
ANISE.
DON'T TELL THE FANS THAT SIVA MOANED OVER A BOX OF CAKE MIX.
I GUESS IT'S NATURAL THAT THEY GET ALONG SO WELL.
HEY, SIVA. IS IT OKAY IF I COME OVER?
YEAH.
CAN I SEE IT? I MISSED THE LAST EPI-SODE.
WOW. THAT'S THE WHOLE T.V. SERIES... EAST OF EDEN.
120


.....
THAT'S HOW THEY CAN DO IT.
ORDINARILY, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE LASTED TWO YEARS.
THEY'RE SO CAREFUL THAT NO ONE FINDS OUT THEIR SECRET. HAVING THIS KIND OF RELATIONSHIP IS THE ONLY WAY THEY COULD KEEP IT UP.
THAT'S HOW THEY CAN KEEP LIVING THIS WAY.
hmph!
!

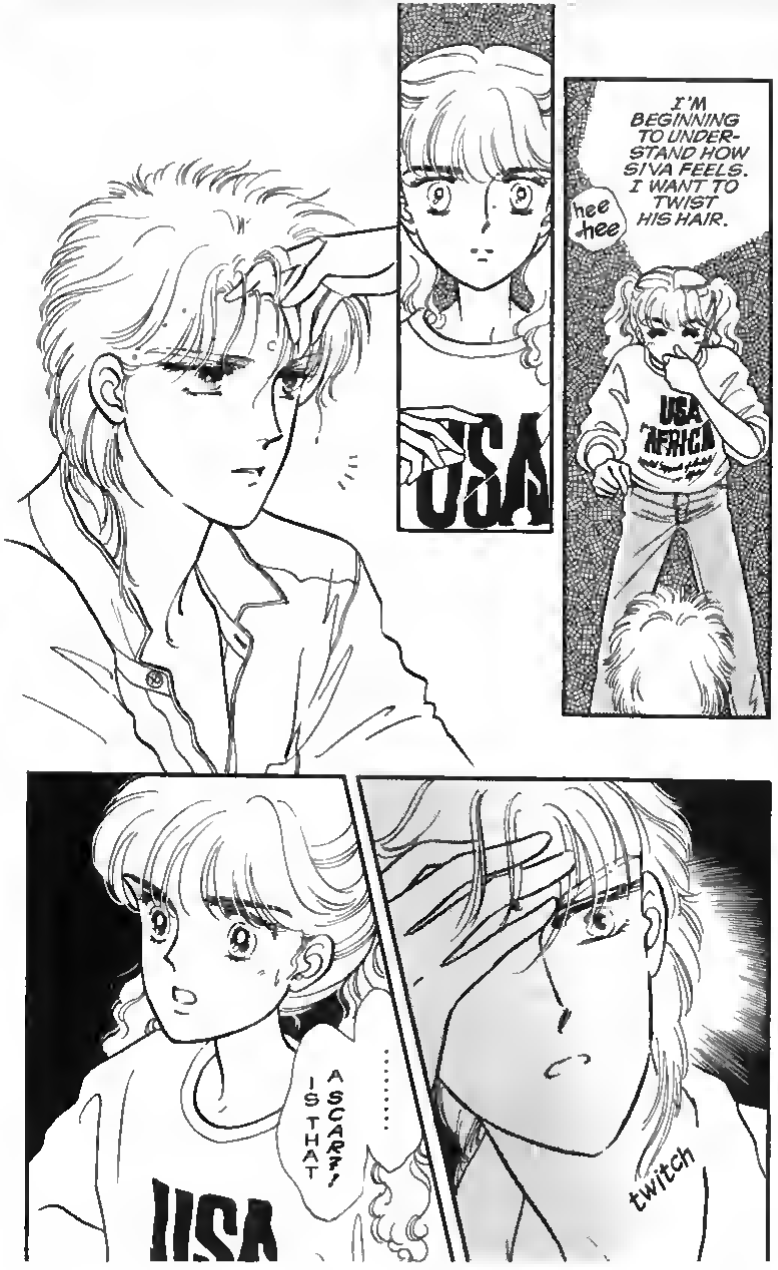
OH!
USA FRICA
CLACK
.....!

CALEB.
YOUR CHILD WILL LIVE ON.
YAY!
AHEAD. GO.
USA AFRIC
IT'S A GREAT SERIES, ISN'T IT?
HE'S THE ONLY REMNANT YOU'LL LEAVE IN THIS WORLD.
PLEASE HELP THAT CHILD.
PLEASE GIVE HIM A CHANCE.
SO THAT HE CAN LIVE AS MAN.

STAY IN HERE FOR A BIT.
SIVA DOESN'T CRY WHEN PEOPLE ARE AROUND.
HE DOESN'T EVEN CRY AROUND ME.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN CIPHER'S HEAD FROM THIS ANGLE. HIS DIRTY BLONDE HAIR LOOKS SO SOFT. AND HIS EYELASHES ARE SO LONG.
CREAK
HIS HAIR.

OH. SORRY.
SPLASH
twist
DON'T STARE AT ME LIKE THAT.
USA AFRICA
CIPHER?
I CAN'T HANDLE STUFF LIKE THAT.
I GET ALL EMO-TION-AL.
ANISE.
I'LL GO SEE WHAT SIVA ...
gulp
USA AFRICA

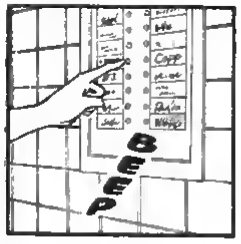
I GUESS IT'S OKAY IF YOU SEE IT.
BUT DON'T TELL ANY-BODY.
IS IT A BURN?
IS THAT WHY YOU STARTED WEAR-ING A BINDI?
YES.


USA
I'M BEGINNING TO UNDER-STAND HOW SIVA FEELS. I WANT TO TWIST HIS HAIR.
hee hee
USA AFRICA
IS THAT A SCAR?
.....
twitch

IS THAT WHY ONE HAD TO RETIRE?
WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE FILMING?
THEY COVER IT UP WITH MAKE-UP.
USA for AFRICA
IS THAT IT?
IF A WOUND LIKE THAT DIDN'T HEAL, THERE'S NO WAY BOTH OF YOU COULD WORK!
YOU'RE BREAKING THE RULES.
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN, ANISE?
oh...

WHAT... IN A FIGHT?
I GOT JABBED WITH A CIGARETTE.
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
IT WAS OVER TWO YEARS AGO, BUT IT STILL HASN'T GONE AWAY.
DON'T MAKE THAT FACE.
...SOMETHING LIKE THIS WILL HAPPEN AT LEAST ONCE OR TWICE.
NO MATTER HOW WELL BOYS ARE RAISED...
USA for AFRICA
"DON'T SWALLOW THE BLOOD, OR YOU'LL THROW UP."

KEEP THE FAITH


BEEP

USA for AFRICA
NO QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR PAST.
AFTER "EAST OF EDEN" YOU'RE PLAYING BILLY JOEL?
YEAH, TO CHEER US UP.
If it seems like I've been lost in lots remember

MISTER JONES?
LAST YEAR'S HOME-ROOM TEACHER?
YEAH.
.....
WHAT'S WRONG?
I DON'T WANT TO LET THEM GO...
WHY SO SAD?
OH, RIGHT!
CIPHER TENDS TO FALL IN LOVE WITH THINGS.
SAY, CIPHER.

COME ON IN.
SIVA'LL BE BACK SOON, TOO.
IT'S ME.
OKAY IF I COME UP?
YEAH. IT'S OPEN.
I KNOW I PROM-ISED.
I HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THEY TELL ME.
.....
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? SORTING OLD CLOTHES?
YEAH.
MISTER JONES ASKED ME TO DONATE THEM TO A CHARITY AUCTION.
HE SAYS "SIVA'S" CLOTHES WILL GO FOR A HIGH PRICE.

SLAM
WEL-COME HOME, JAKE.
klak klak
HAVE YOU EATEN YET?
NO, WE WAITED.
CLICK

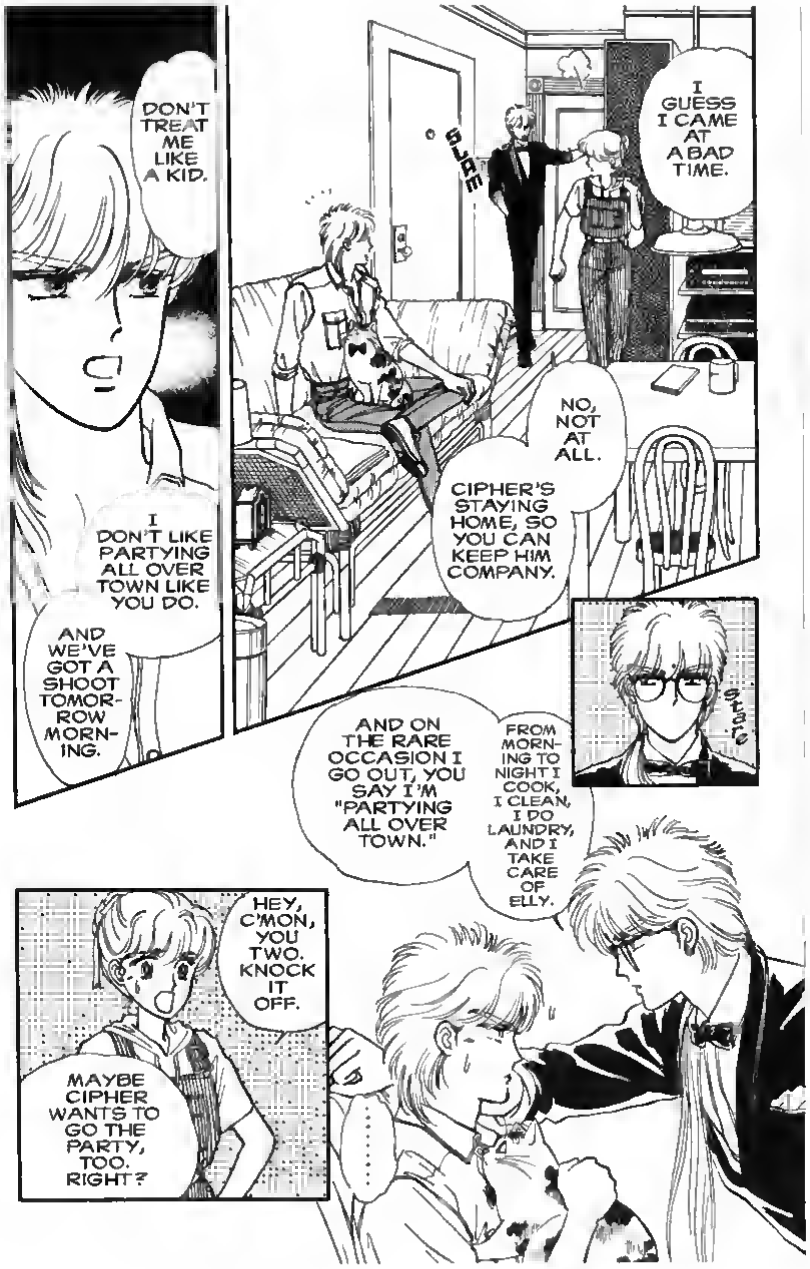
I DON'T TO GIVE HIM "MY STUFF" IF IT'S NOT REALLY MINE.
IF YOU CAN'T DECIDE BUY SOME NEW CLOTHES FOR THE AUCTION
YOU COULD WEAR THEM ONCE OR TWICE.
YOU SEE?
I LIKE MISTER JONES.
I WANT TO HELP HIM OUT.

HEY, ANISE.
GLAD TO SEE YOU MADE IT.
WOW!
IT'S SO COOL!
ARE YOU GOING TO A PARTY?
TO A GALLERY OPENING IN THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD.
IT'S GREAT!
IS THIS A PONY-TAIL EXTEN-SION?
YES. IT'S GOOD, DON'T YOU THINK?

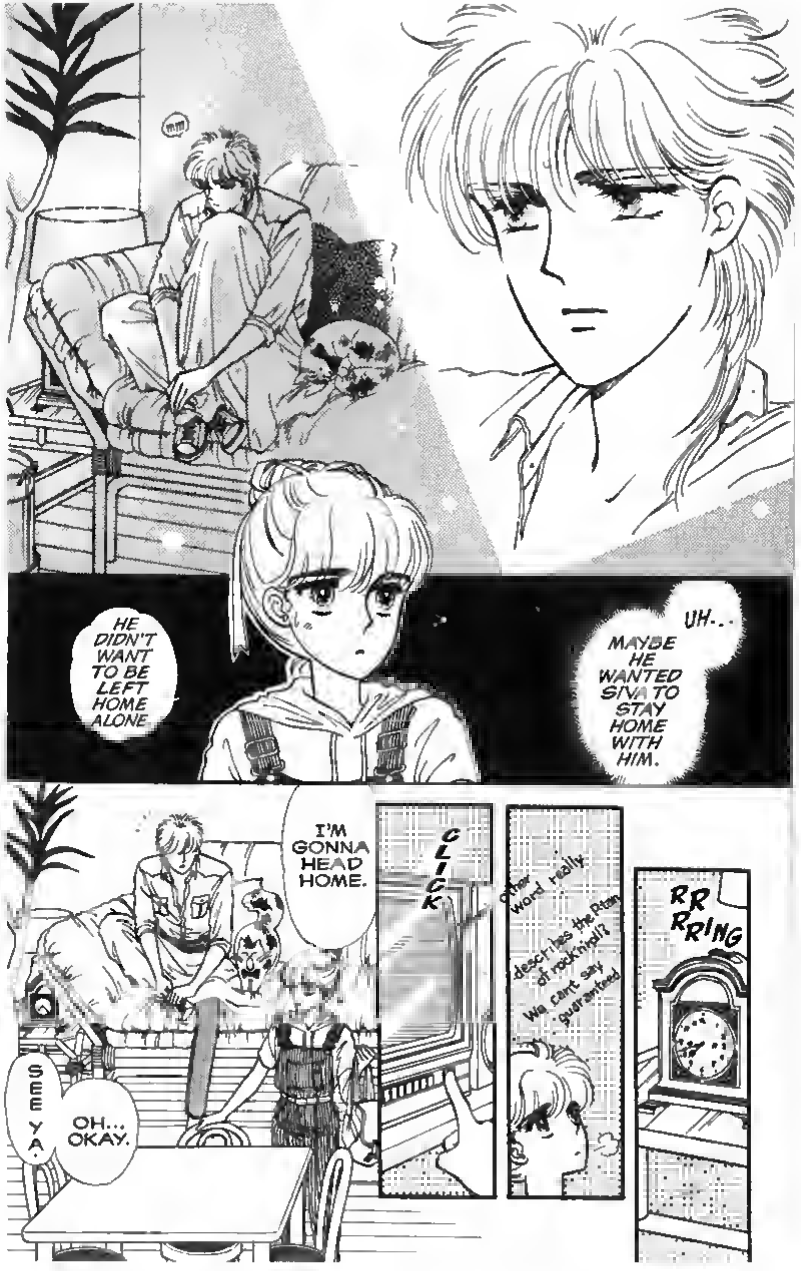
Real Name: Jake Rang
Birth date: February 4th
17 years old.
Birthplace: Brooklyn, N.Y.
Height & Weight: 6'2", 143 lbs
Hair & Eye Color: Dirty blonde gray eyes
Home: A two-bedrooms apartment in Manhattan.

Favorites
Movie. Never Endmg Story
Actor: Bill Murray
Food: Vegetarian pizza
Hobby: Flea market shopping
Pets: A cat named Elly

SLAM
HE WON'T BE BACK TILL MORNING, AT THE EARLIEST.
Hmph!
I'LL STICK WITH JAMES BOND.
YOU GO BE TARZAN OF THE URBAN JUNGLE.
WHY WOULD I WANT TO GO?
I'D RATHER GO TO THE MOUNTAINS, OR THE BEACH, OR...
I HATE ALL THAT FALSE POLITENESS AND THICK MAKE-UP!
WHAT?!
DON'T BOTHER.
DID YOU EAT DINNER?
WANT ME TO MAKE SOME?
IF I WANTED TO EAT, I'D MAKE IT MYSELF.
I DON'T NEED IT.


DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A KID.
I DON'T LIKE PARTYING ALL OVER TOWN LIKE YOU DO.
AND WE'VE GOT A SHOOT TOMORROW MORNING.
SLAM
I GUESS I CAME AT A BAD TIME.
NO, NOT AT ALL.
CIPHER'S STAYING HOME, SO YOU CAN KEEP HIM COMPANY.
SLAM
AND ON THE RARE OCCASION I GO OUT, YOU SAY I'M "PARTYING ALL OVER TOWN."
FROM MORNING TO NIGHT I COOK, I CLEAN, I DO LAUNDRY, AND I TAKE CARE OF ELLY.
HEY, C'MON, YOU TWO. KNOCK IT OFF.
MAYBE CIPHER WANTS TO GO THE PARTY, TOO. RIGHT?

YES.
HUH?!
BACK SO SOON?
SLAM.
THAT'S ALL HE'S GOING TO SAY?
mm
HE COULD AT LEAST TRY TO BE POLITE.
rattle
rattle
THUD
WHAT'S UP, MR. BOND?
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO COME BACK THE SAME DAY YOU LEFT.


mm
HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE LEFT HOME ALONE
UH...
MAYBE HE WANTED SIVA TO STAY HOME WITH HIM.
I'M GONNA HEAD HOME.
CLICK
other word really. desert has the Rem of rock'n'roll? We can't say guaranteed.
RR RRING
SEE YA.
OH... OKAY.

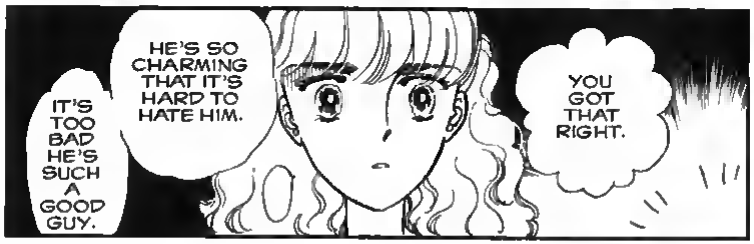
I'M GOING NOW.
YOU! WHAT'M I
THERE! PEELED 'EM ALL.
I'LL MAKE DINNER TO-NIGHT.
DON'T. YOU'LL ONLY WASTE THE IN-GREDI-ENTS.
ANISE.
WHAT'S YOUR HURRY? STAY FOR DINNER.
ROY, CHANGE THE SHEETS.
I'M TAK-ING THEM TO THE LAUN-DRY.
YEAH.
THIS REALLY IS GOOD.
THANKS.

WELCOME HOME.
IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK.
!
MINE'S BETTER THAN YOURS.
HE'S GOOD AT MA-NIPU-LATING PEO-PLE.
GRRR!!

AFTER THEY'VE WORKED SO LONG, YOU CAN'T JUST TOSS THEM BECAUSE THEY'RE NO LONGER USEFUL.
CAN YOU?
IT'S STILL WARM FROM CIPHER'S HANDS.
SIVA KEEPS TELLING ME TO PITCH IT.
BUT OLD THINGS AREN'T JUST "THINGS."
THERE IS A HISTORY IN EVERY SCRATCH AND DENT.
SORT OF LIKE PEOPLE.

SIVA IS SO MATURE.
THAT WAS ALREADY BROKEN.
I GOT IT FROM GRANDMOTHER. IT WAS HER FAVORITE.
IT'S PRETTY OLD.
I'D NEVER DREAM OF GETTING RID OF IT.
I ALWAYS KEEP IT UNDER MY PILLOW.
WHY KEEP IT AROUND? YOU HAVE A NEW ONE.
HUH?
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
NO REASON.....
CLUNK
A CLOCK?
IT'S STOPPED. DID I BREAK IT?
OH.

IT'S LIKE A DRUG.
IT'S HEAVEN WHEN YOU GO OUT WITH HIM, BUT IT'S HELL WHEN IT'S OVER.
AND YOU KEEP CHASING HIM, JUST TRYING TO GET CLOSE TO HIM.
HE DOESN'T CARE AT ALL ABOUT THE OTHERS.
THAT'S BECAUSE HE ONLY VALUES THE ONE HE'S CLOSEST TO.

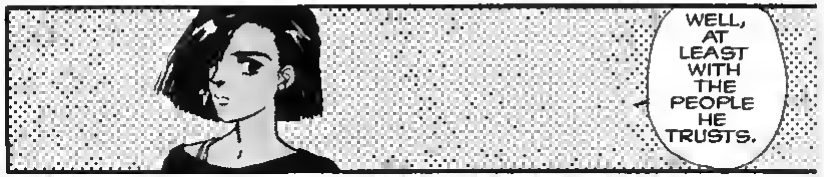

IT'S TOO BAD HE'S SUCH A GOOD GUY.
HE'S SO CHARMING THAT IT'S HARD TO HATE HIM.
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT.

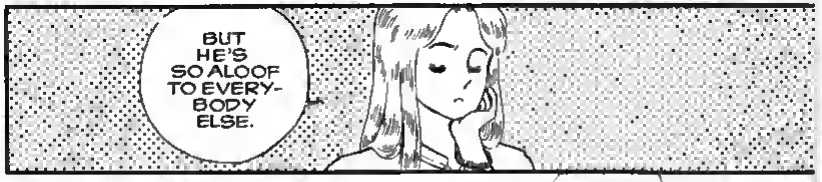
SIGH

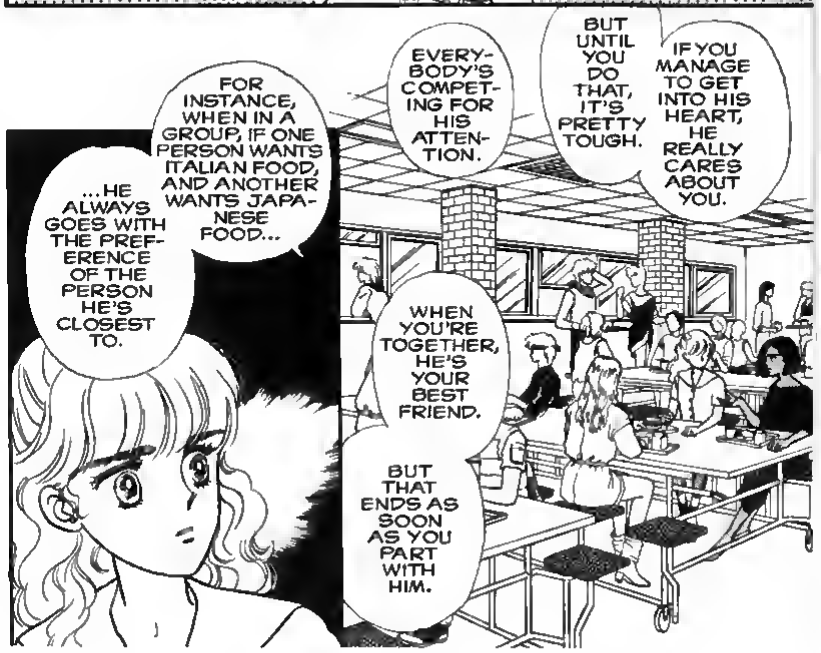
BUT I STILL FEEL LIKE AN OUT-SIDER.

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SIGH ABOUT?
RECENTLY YOU'VE BEEN KEEPING SIVA ALL TO YOURSELF.

AND SERIOUS ABOUT OBLIGA-TIONS.
HE'S MORE PASSIONATE THAN I THOUHGT.

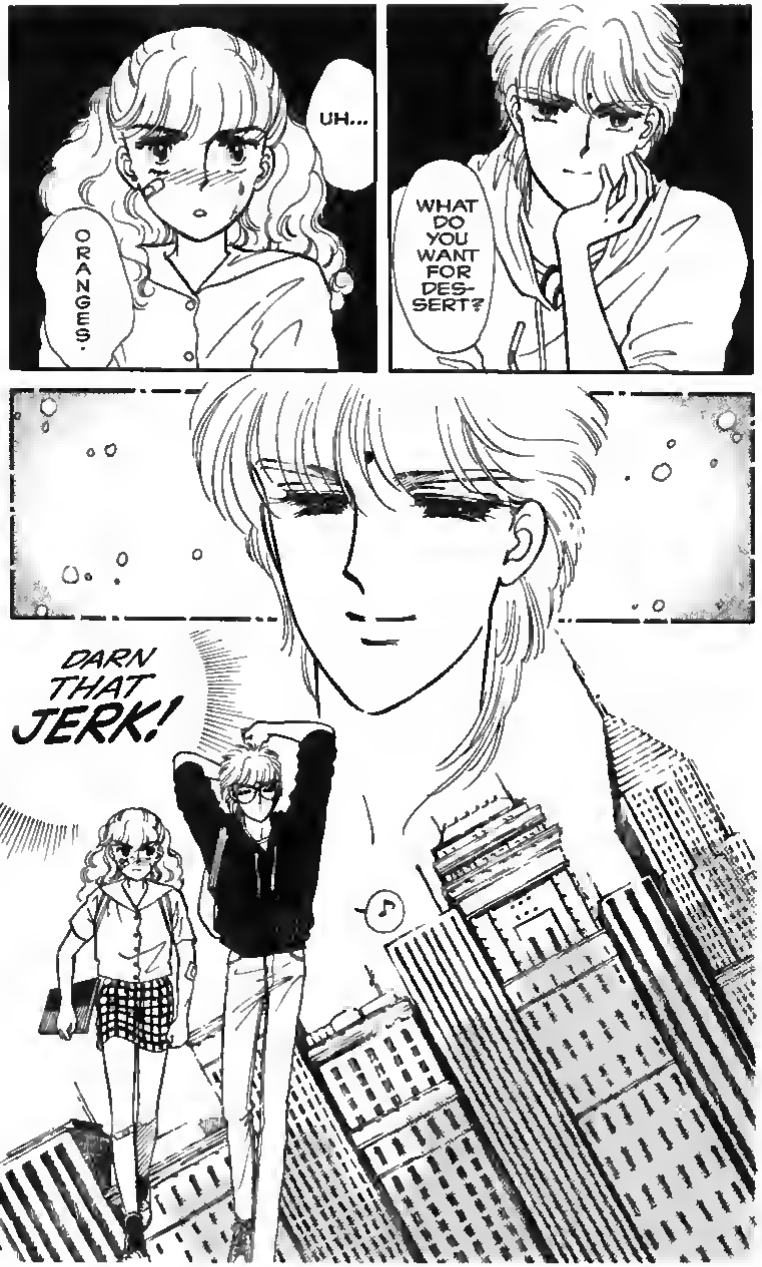

WELL, AT LEAST WITH THE PEOPLE HE TRUSTS.


BUT HE'S SO ALOOF TO EVERY-BODY ELSE.


...HE ALWAYS GOES WITH THE PREF-ERENCE OF THE PERSON HE'S CLOSEST TO.
FOR INSTANCE, WHEN IN A GROUP, IF ONE PERSON WANTS ITALIAN FOOD, AND ANOTHER WANTS JAPA-NESE FOOD...
EVERY-BODY'S COMPET-ING FOR HIS ATTEN-TION.
BUT UNTIL YOU DO THAT, IT'S PRETTY TOUGH.
IF YOU MANAGE TO GET INTO HIS HEART, HE REALLY CARES ABOUT YOU.
WHEN YOU'RE TOGETHER, HE'S YOUR BEST FRIEND.
BUT THAT ENDS AS SOON AS YOU PART WITH HIM.

BEAT UP
hmph!
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN WHILE I WAS GONE?
DID YOU TRY TO STOP ANOTHER FIGHT?
I'D CONSIDER COMING IF YOU SAID YOU WANTED ME, THOUGH.
NOT REALLY. I WASN'T PLANNING ON COMING TO YOUR PLACE TODAY.
JAKE ASKED ME TO DO SOME SHOPPING TODAY.
DO YOU WANT ANYTHING?
SOME SNACKS FOR DESSERT.
DID I HURT HIM? DID I MAKE HIM MAD?
stare

ANISE!
ah...
BE CAREFUL, ANISE. A COUPLE OF JEALOUS SIVA ADDICTS ARE EYEBALLING YOU.
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE JEALOUS ABOUT.
CRASH
THIS IS A DRAG. IT'S NOT LIKE ME TO SUFFER OVER JUNK LIKE THIS.
FOR THE PAST MONTH SINCE I MET THOSE TWO THEY'RE ALL I THINK ABOUT.
OOPS.
SORRY.
ANISE!
DON'T! STOP!
ANISE!


UH...
ORANGES.
WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR DES-SERT?
DARN THAT JERK!

OKAY.
OH,
THEN I GUESS I'LL INVITE SOME-BODY ELSE.
CLATTER
WHAT?!
AH...
ANISE, YOU REALLY WANT TO COME.
.....
DON'T YOU?

MADONNA
in LUCKY STAR
Sushi Bar MIYAGI
IRASSHAI!
SOME AKAGAI, SOME EBI, AND AVOCADO, PLEASE.
HAI!

IF I HAVE TO BE IN THIS SITUATION, I MAY AS WELL USE IT. LET'S SEE IF HE REALLY CARES.
I WANT SUSHI!
I WANT SOME JAPANESE FOOD.
NO!
I WANT TO GO TO A PROPER SUSHI BAR!
I'VE NEVER BEEN TO A SUSHI BAR.
UH...
SIVA IS STILL WAITING AT HOME.
WHY SO SUDDEN?
IS TAKE-OUT OKAY?
WHY NOT?
BUNNIES SHOES
smirk
THEN LET'S GO.
OKAY.
.....
OWIE

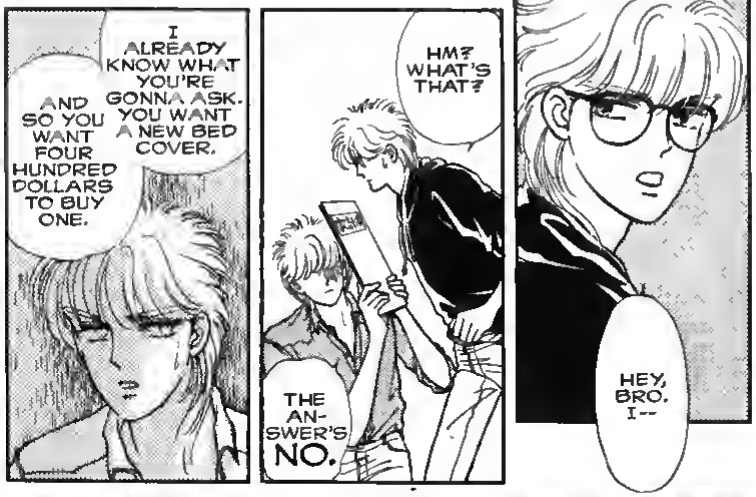
GOOD EVENING!
YOU GUYS ARE BACK LATE.
grin
WE WENT TO EAT AT A SUSHI BAR.
YEAH, I GUESS.
THIS IS FROM ANISE.
SHE GOT THIS TAKEOUT ESPECIALLY FOR YOU.
UH...

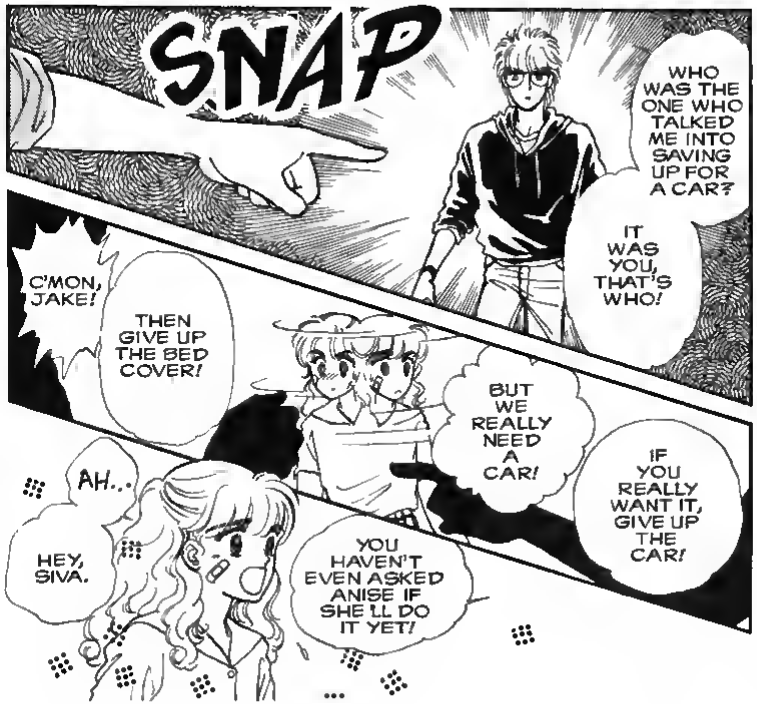
ANISE?
YOU'RE NOT EATING MUCH.
WELL...
WHAT, IS THAT FOR JAKE?
I SOLD A QUILT TODAY, SO I'M FEELING RICH. I'LL TREAT.
UH...
ONE ORDER OF TAKE-OUT PLEASE!
HA!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM.
HE'LL FIND SOMETHING TO EAT HIMSELF.
NO!
I WANT SIVA TO EAT IT!
.....

YOU'RE A REGULAR EXPERT.
HEY, YOU'RE RIGHT!
PRIDE...
MINE ARE BETTER.
.....
WE'LL BE DONE SOON, ANISE.
LA LA LA!
SCRAPE SCRAPE
REALLY?!
TAPESTRIES, BED COVERS, CUSHION COVERS, THINGS LIKE THAT.
A GOOD BED COVER DESIGN CAN SELL FOR ABOUT FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS.
FOUR HUNDRED BUCKS, HUH?
WELL, I WOULDN'T SAY PRO.
WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THEM?
BUT THAT'S WHY YOU HAD CASH TODAY, ISN'T IT?
I THOUGHT QUILTING WAS JUST A HOBBY.
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE A PRO.
YEAH.
IS THIS A COLORED PENCIL SET?
WOW, ANISE!
YEAH.
NO! NO!
DON'T THANK ME!
TH-THANK!
JUST DON'T, OKAY?!
WHY NOT?
?
.....
ALL THE POINTS ARE BROKEN.
REALLY?
I USE IT TO DRAW PATTERNS FOR MY QUILTS.
AND FOR DESIGN CLASS SOMETIMES.
bakot
SHI
NE
SCRAPE SCRAPE
LET ME SHARPEN THEM FOR YOU.
NO.
REALLY
THAT'S OKAY!!

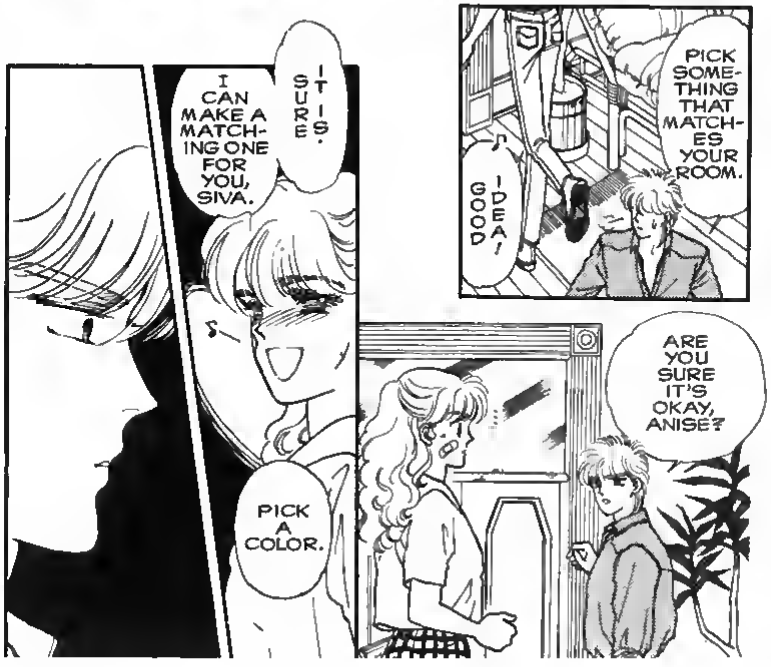
I'LL MAKE IT FOR YOU, FOR FREE!
I'LL MAKE ONE FOR YOU.
YOU'RE FRIENDS OF MINE.

.....
IN THAT CASE ...
YEAH. THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN ACCEPT SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
NO, THAT WON'T DO. NO.
WELL, OF COURSE. THAT'S OBVIOUS.
.....
YOU CAN JUST PAY FOR THE MATERIALS. HOW'S THAT?


I ALREADY KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GONNA ASK. YOU WANT A NEW BED COVER.
AND SO YOU WANT FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS TO BUY ONE.
HM? WHAT'S THAT?
THE ANSWER'S NO.
HEY, BRO. I--


SNAP
WHO WAS THE ONE WHO TALKED ME INTO SAVING UP FOR A CAR?
IT WAS YOU, THAT'S WHO!
C'MON, JAKE!
THEN GIVE UP THE BED COVER!
BUT WE REALLY NEED A CAR!
IF YOU REALLY WANT IT, GIVE UP THE CAR!
AH...
HEY, SIVA.
YOU HAVEN'T EVEN ASKED ANISE IF SHE'LL DO IT YET!

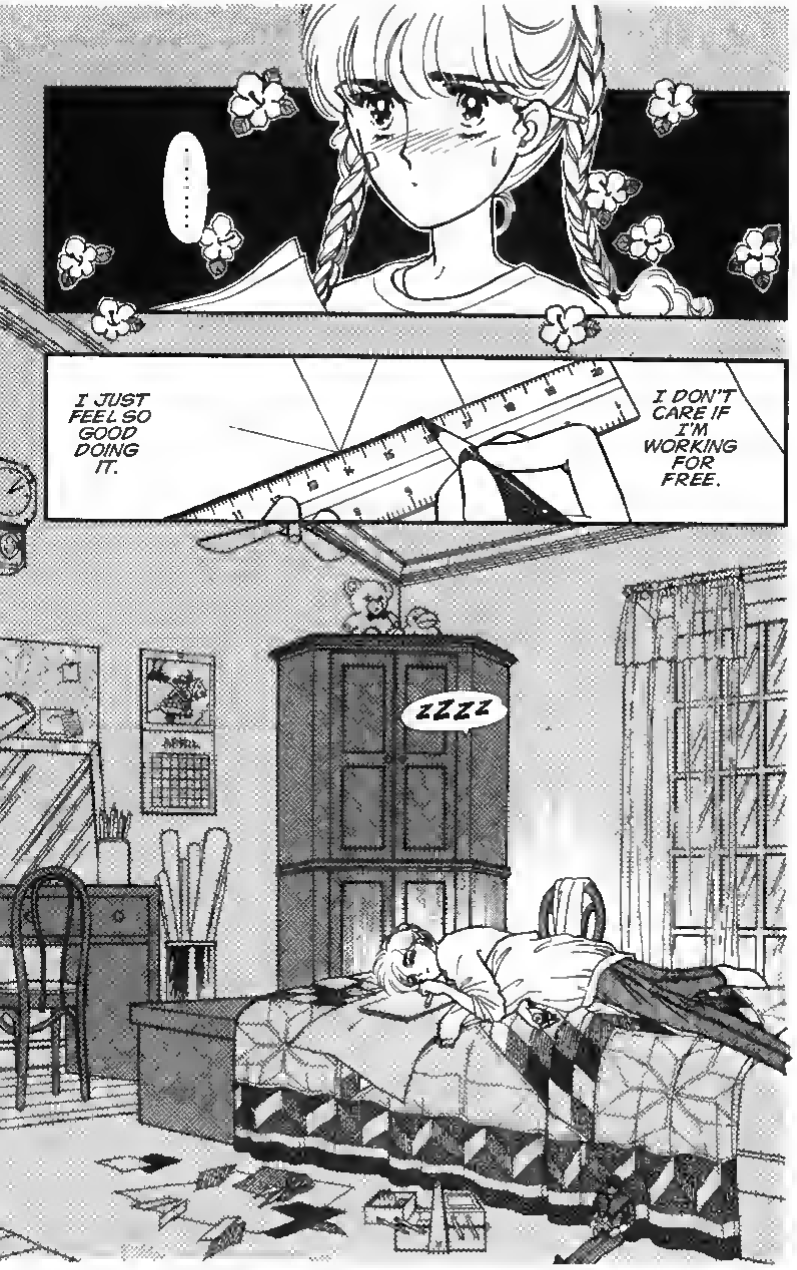
GYAH!
HEY, CIPHER...
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU, ANISE!
OKAY.
ANY-WAY, LET'S START BY CHOOS-ING THE COLOR.
I CAN SEE YOU'RE GRATE-FUL.


SURE IT IS.
I CAN MAKE A MATCH-ING ONE FOR YOU, SIVA.
PICK A COLOR.
♪ GOOD IDEA!
PICK SOME-THING THAT MATCH-ES YOUR ROOM.
ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY, ANISE?

OH...
HOPE YOU DON'T MIND A SIMPLE PAT-TERN.
OF COURSE! LEAVE IT TO ME!
YOU'D WORK FOR FREE?
ARE YOU REAL-LY SERI-OUS?
ANISE!
HUG
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

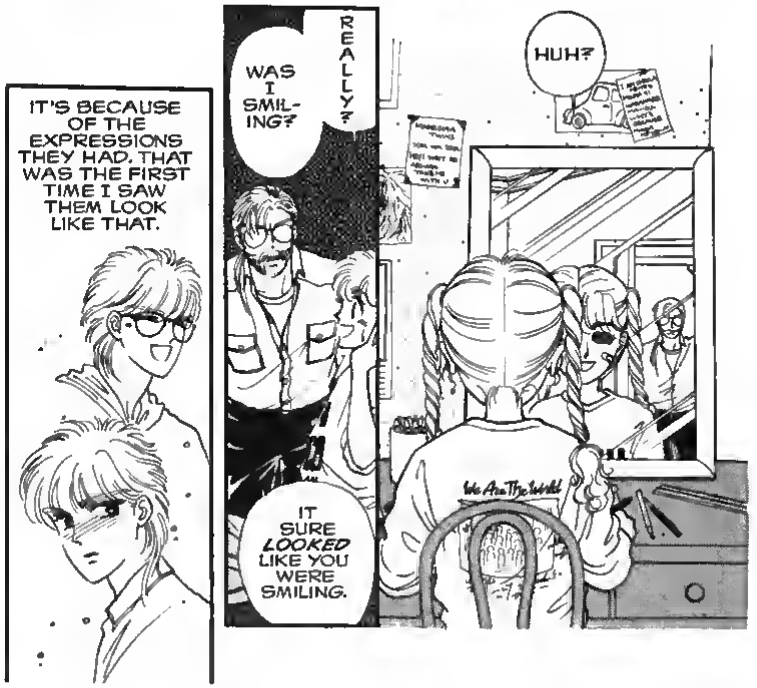
BLUSH
SIVA WANTS BLUE.
CIPHER WANTS A SUBDUED EARTH TONE.

HA... HA HA... SORRY. I GUESS YOU DON'T NEED ONE.
I SHOULD JUST KEEP MY MOUTH SHUT.
AH?
NO.
NO, IT'S NOT THAT.
Thanks.

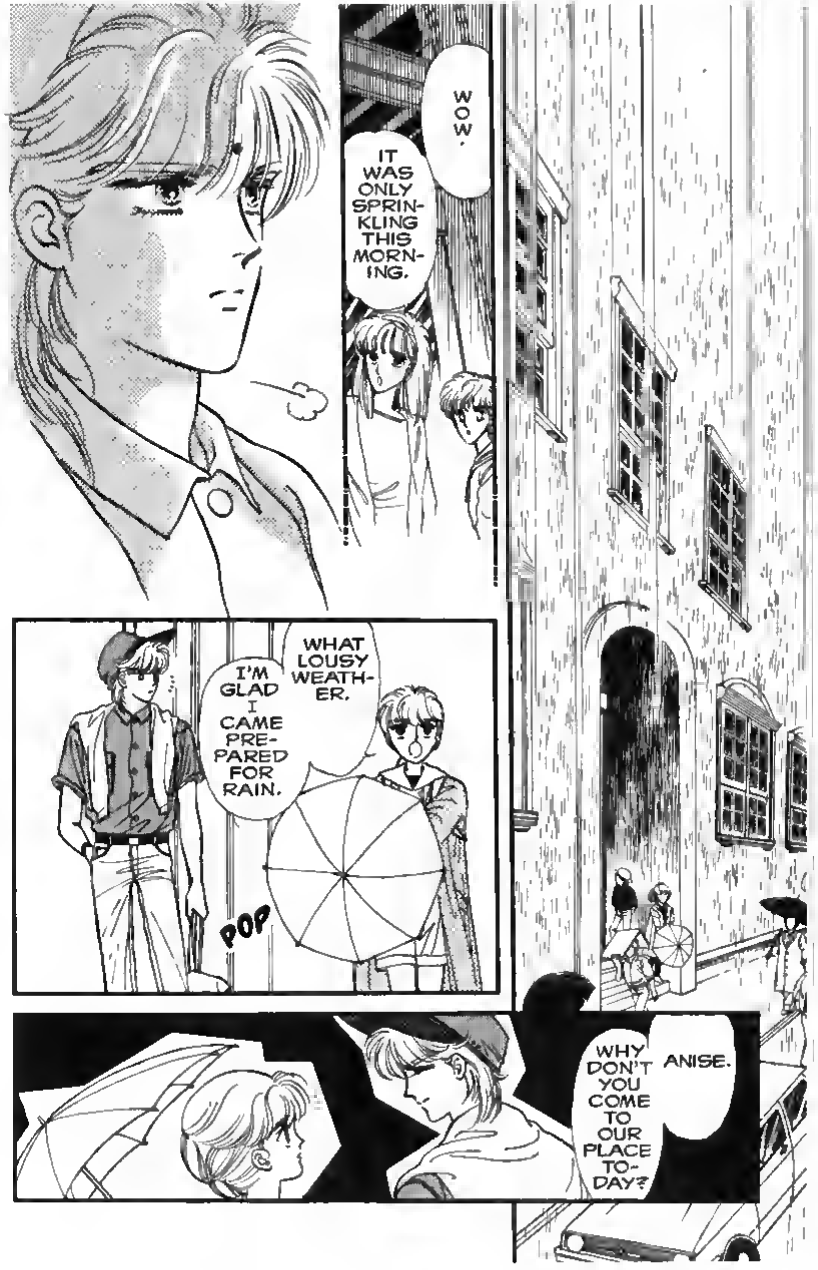

.....
I JUST FEEL SO GOOD DOING IT.
I DON'T CARE IF I'M WORKING FOR FREE.
ZZZZ

HOW DID I END UP DOING THIS?
I'VE GOT A PILE OF OTHER THINGS I SHOULD BE DOING.
HMM... WORKING FOR FREE.

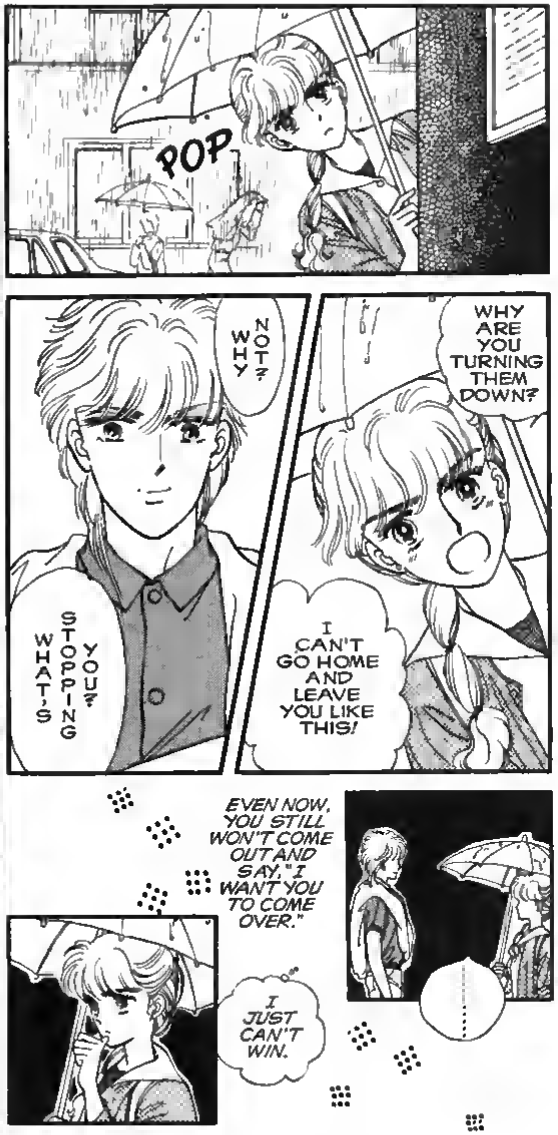
YOU SURE LOOK HAPPY, ANISE.


IT'S BECAUSE OF THE EXPRESSIONS THEY HAD. THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I SAW THEM LOOK LIKE THAT.
WAS I SMILING?
REALLY?
IT SURE LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE SMILING.
HUH?

SAY, CIPHER. DON'T YOU HAVE A COAT OR AN UMBRELLA?
WHAT DID YOU DO THIS MORNING?
I JUST PUT ON THIS CAP, AND RAN HERE.
WELL, YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET HOME.
SORRY, BUT I'VE GOT AN APPOINTMENT.
BBYEE
SAY HI TO SIVA.
OH.
BYE...
glance
HEY, SIVA. DIDN'T YOU BRING AN UMBRELLA?
WANT TO SHARE MINE?
UH...

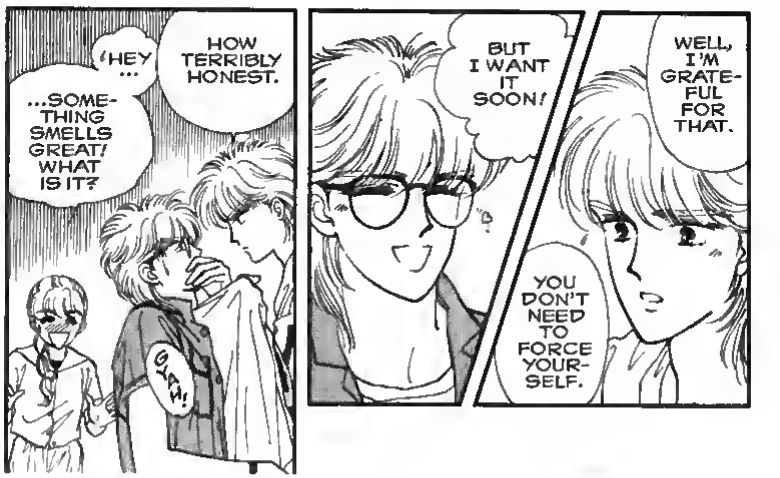

WOW.
IT WAS ONLY SPRINKLING THIS MORNING.
WHAT LOUSY WEATHER.
I'M GLAD I CAME PREPARED FOR RAIN.
POP
ANISE.
WHY DON'T YOU COME TO OUR PLACE TODAY?

SHEILA E.
SAY WHO?
AND
PRINCE

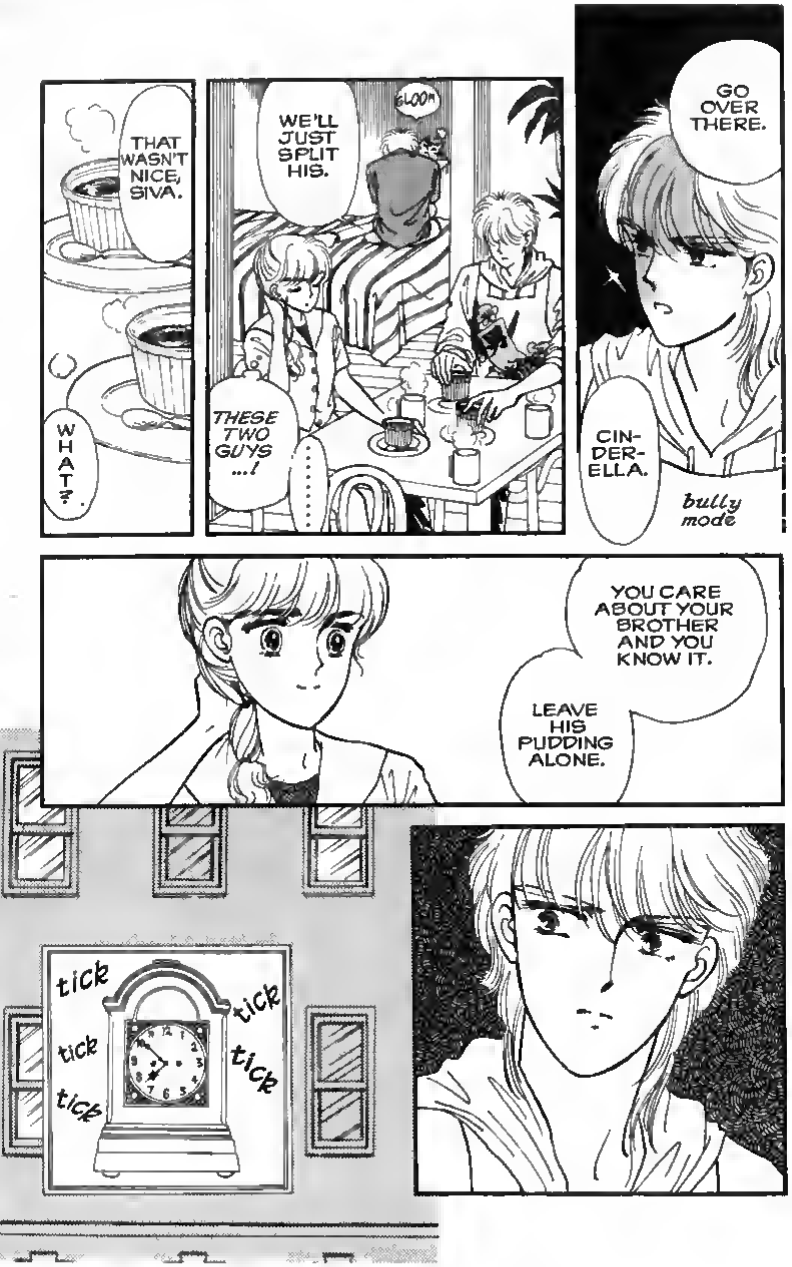

POP
WHY NOT?
WHAT'S STOPPING YOU?
WHY ARE YOU TURNING THEM DOWN?
I CAN'T GO HOME AND LEAVE YOU LIKE THIS!
EVEN NOW, YOU STILL WON'T COME OUT AND SAY, "I WANT YOU TO COME OVER."
I JUST CAN'T WIN.

YOU SURE?
NAH, THAT'S OKAY.
YEAH. THANKS, THOUGH.
BYE!
NO, I'M FINE, THANKS.
IT'S NO TROUBLE.
MY MOM'S COMING TO PICK ME UP. WANT A RIDE?
WANT ONE?
HEY, SIVA. I'VE GOT AN EXTRA BOX.

WELL ...
I'M A DAY LATE IN PUTTING YOUR QUILTS TOGETH- ER.
WHAT?!
HEY.
SHE TOOK TIME OUT OF HER BUSY SCHEDULE TO DROP BY.
BUSY?
I WANTED TO SHOW IT TO YOU BEFORE YOU LEFT.
I was gonna surprise you but...
YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO L.A. FOR THE SUMMER TO FILM. SO I'M HURRY- ING.
THAT'S IT? THAT'S WHAT MAKES YOU SO BUSY?


HOW TERRIBLY HONEST.
(HEY ...
...SOME- THING SMELLS GREAT! WHAT IS IT?
GUSH!
BUT I WANT IT SOON!
WELL, I'M GRATE- FUL FOR THAT.
YOU DON'T NEED TO FORCE YOUR- SELF.

ALL OF A SUDDEN, I DO WANT TO COME TO YOUR PLACE.
WOO HOO!
HEY.
WELCOME HOME.
男前


THAT WASN'T NICE, SIVA.
WHAT?
WE'LL JUST SPLIT HIS.
GLOOM
THESE TWO GUYS ...!
GO OVER THERE.
CIN-DER-ELLA.
bully mode
YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR BROTHER AND YOU KNOW IT.
LEAVE HIS PUDDING ALONE.
tick
tick
tick
tick
tick

UH... WELL...
THANKS!
YOU EVEN MADE ONE FOR ME.
WOW! PUD-DING!
GOOD TIMING.
THEY LOOK DELISH!
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE HOME SOON, SO I FIXED THEM UP.
IT'S ...NO BIG DEAL.
YO, DUDE! WHAT'S WITH THE BEAR HUG?
BUT, JAKE ...
STOP. YOU'RE WEIRDIN' ME OUT.
?!
HUG

NO. FROM WAY BEFORE THAT.
SINCE SHE NOTICED THE SCAR?
SINCE WHEN?
I'M THINK-ING...
...THAT SHE REALLY WON THE BET.
CON-SIDER-ING SHE LOST THE BET ...
...ISN'T IT STRANGE THAT SHE WASN'T DEPRESSED OR UPSET WHEN SHE LOST?
REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID WHEN WE HAD THE BET?
"EVEN THE PEOPLE YOU CALL FRIENDS ONLY NOTICE SO MUCH."
"IF YOU THINK I'M WRONG, LET'S PROVE IT."
"SEE IF YOU CAN TELL US APART."
HER FAITH WAS RIDING ON THAT BET.

ROY.
ANISE WENT HOME.
ROY?
UUUM...
THE PILLOW IS FOR PUTTING YOUR HEAD ON, NOT FOR HUGGING.
.....
HEY!
STOP!
BUT I LIKE TO HUG.
WHAT?
ANISE.
SHE CAN TELL US APART.
DID YOU NOTICE?

MORON!
WE HAD THE SAME MARK ON OUR FOREHEADS.
DUMMY! THERE'S GOT TO BE A MORE CONCRETE REASON.
IT'S 'CAUSE SHE WANTS TO BE FRIENDS.
WELL...
MAYBE SHE'S NOT THINKING ABOUT HER OWN BENEFIT.
WHAT VALUE COULD IT BE TO HER TO LOSE?
THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
WELL, THAT WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR US, IF IT WERE TRUE.
.....
?
MAYBE SHE'S JUST CLOSING HER EYES, FOR OUR SAKE.
SHE'S THE KIND OF GIRL WHO WORKS FOR FREE.

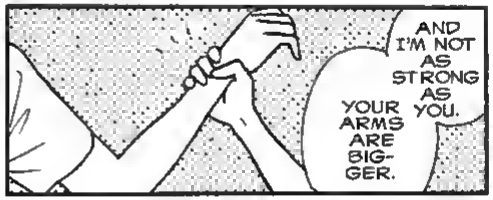
DON'T YOU SEE?
IF WE HAD LOST, WE WOULD HAVE HAD TO TELL HER EVERYTHING.
...THAT MEANS SHE LOST ON PURPOSE!
IF SHE COULD TELL US APART BACK THEN...
GET OUTTA HERE.
JAKE!
BUT THAT REALLY HELPED US OUT, DIDN'T IT?
Budweiser
I THINK SHE HAS SOME REASON FOR JUST TRYING TO STAY CLOSE TO US.
THERE'S NO TELLING.
BUT I STILL DON'T GET IT!
WHAT GOOD DOES IT DO HER TO LOSE?
Budweiser

BUZZ OFF. I'M BUSY.
PIN CH
LEAVE ME ALONE. I'M WORKING.
OH, C'MON. LET'S PLAY A GAME.
DARN YOU!
COME BACK HERE, MARTIN!

OW! HEY, NO TICKLING, YOU COWARD!
GOTCHA!
HA HA HA HA
WH-- WHAT?!
FRI
WHO-EVER GETS TO THE PEANUT GUY FIRST WINS!

WE SHOULD BE CARE-FUL UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT SHE'S UP TO.
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE SO STU-PID.
NOW YOU'RE TALK-ING LIKE THAT AGAIN!
AND I THOUGHT YOU ACTUALLY LIKED ANISE!
LET'S KEEP ACTING LIKE WE DID BE-FORE.
SO LET'S CLOSE OUR EYES FOR HER.
ANISE!
HEY, ANISE!

FREEDOM


AND I'M NOT AS STRONG AS YOU.
YOUR ARMS ARE BIG-GER.

I'VE GOT THE STRONG-EST GRIP ...
...ING GYM CLASS.
FREEDOM

WHAT?! FLORIDA?!
IN OUR CY-CLING CLUB..
...THERE'S A PLAN TO CYCLE TO FLORIDA DURING SUMMER VACATION.

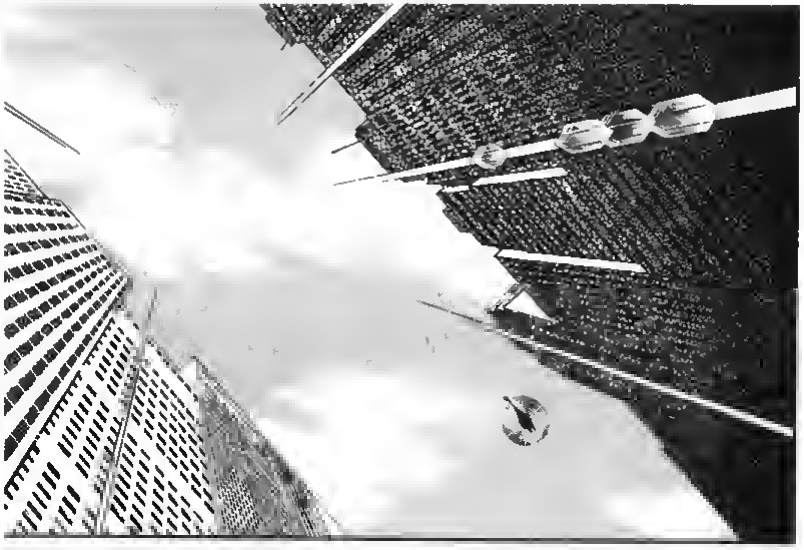
JESSICA!
I'M HOME.

HEY, NISE.
YOU WERE HOLD-ING BACK.

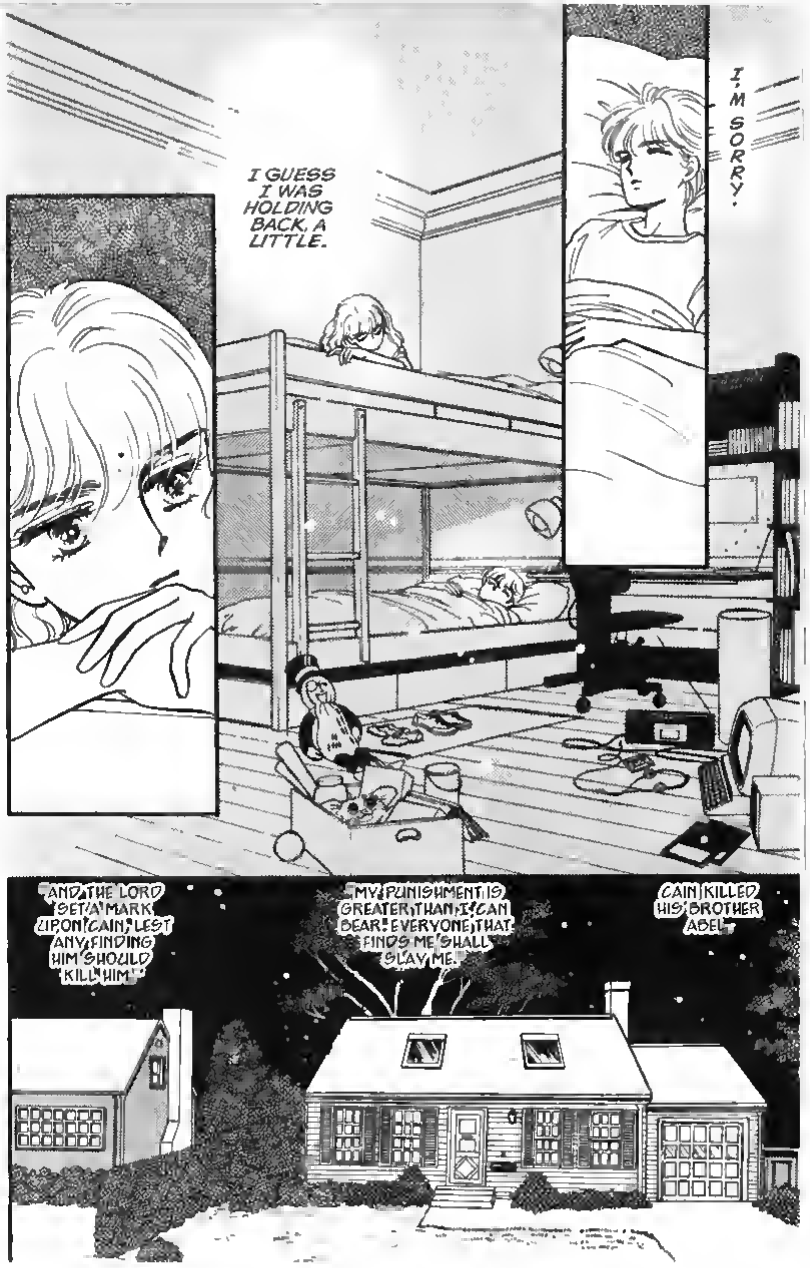
YEAH! I WIN!
AH... DARN.
GOT IT!
THIS IS STU-PID.

OH, PLEASE! WHAT'RE YOU SAY-ING?
YOU'RE WAY TALLER THAN ME.

I GOT BAD FEET.
THERE'S NO WAY I COULD WIN.

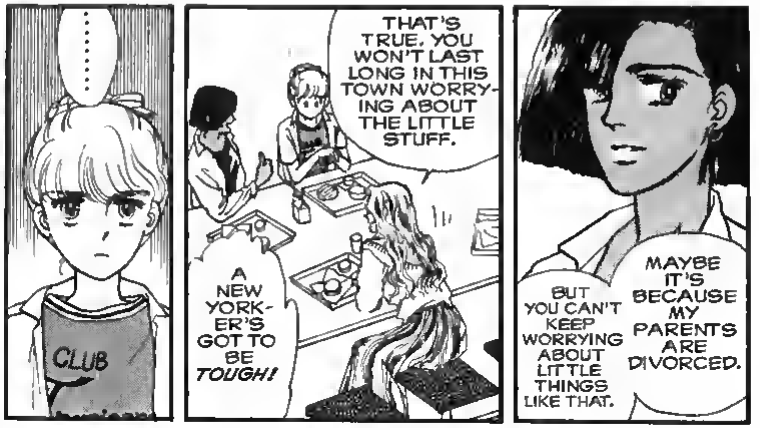


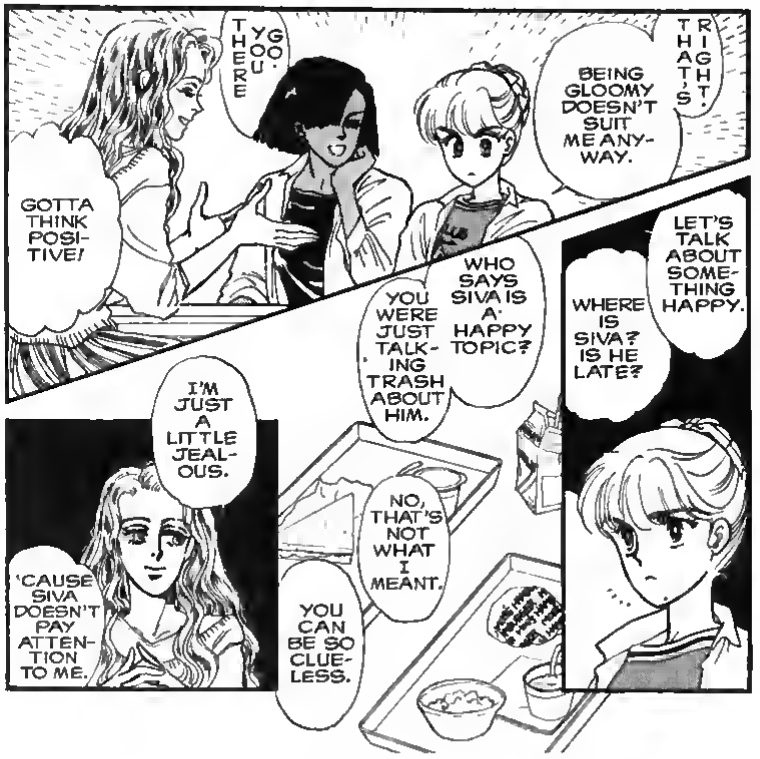
THE SAME DREAM I ALWAYS HAVE.
NO, I JUST HAD A BAD DREAM.
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. I HAVE RECURRING DREAMS, TOO.
I USED TO DREAM THAT MY MOTHER GOT MURDERED.
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK GLUM.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN AT YOUR MOTHER'S HOUSE?

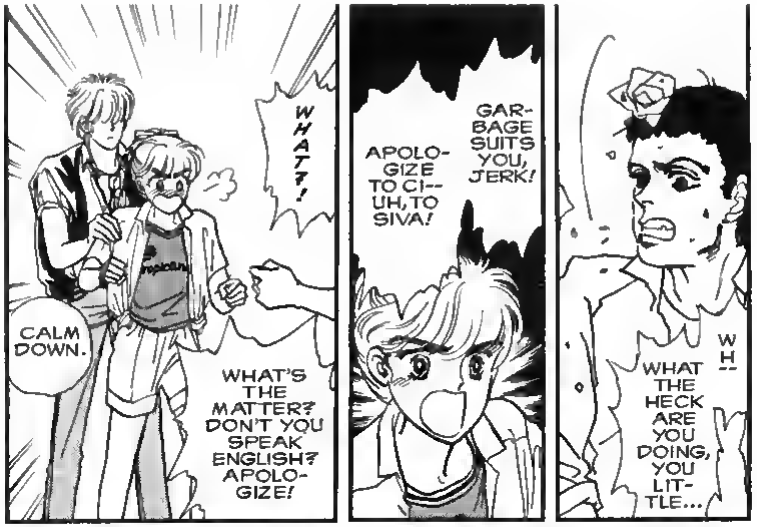

I'M SORRY.
I GUESS I WAS HOLDING BACK A LITTLE.
AND THE LORD SET A MARK UPON CAIN, LEST ANY FINDING HIM SHOULD KILL HIM.
MY PUNISHMENT IS GREATER THAN I CAN BEAR! EVERYONE THAT FINDS ME SHALL SLAY ME.
CAIN KILLED HIS BROTHER ABEL.

PUSHY, AREN'T YOU? YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO TALK TO A GIRL
AND YOU'RE WEARING THE SAME CLOTHES EVERY TIME I SEE YOU.
I'm a Prince fan.
snicker snicker
Prince
COME OVER HERE, RUTH.
HEY.
SIVA?
YOU THINK HE'S GOOD?
CLUB Tropical

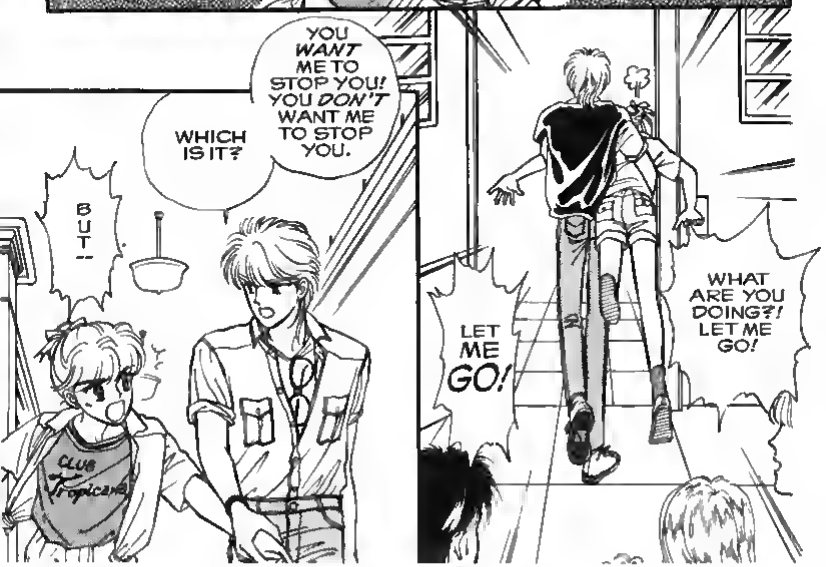
stare
YOU'D BE BETTER OFF PICKING OLD CLOTHES FROM THE TRASH.
AND THEY'RE OLD RAGS!
WA HA HA HA
HEY, DID YOU HEAR?
SIVA'S CLOTHES ARE ON SALE AT YOUR CHARITY BAZAAR.


.....
CLUB
THAT'S TRUE. YOU WON'T LAST LONG IN THIS TOWN WORRYING ABOUT THE LITTLE STUFF.
A NEW YORKER'S GOT TO BE TOUGH!
BUT YOU CAN'T KEEP WORRYING ABOUT LITTLE THINGS LIKE THAT.
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE MY PARENTS ARE DIVORCED.

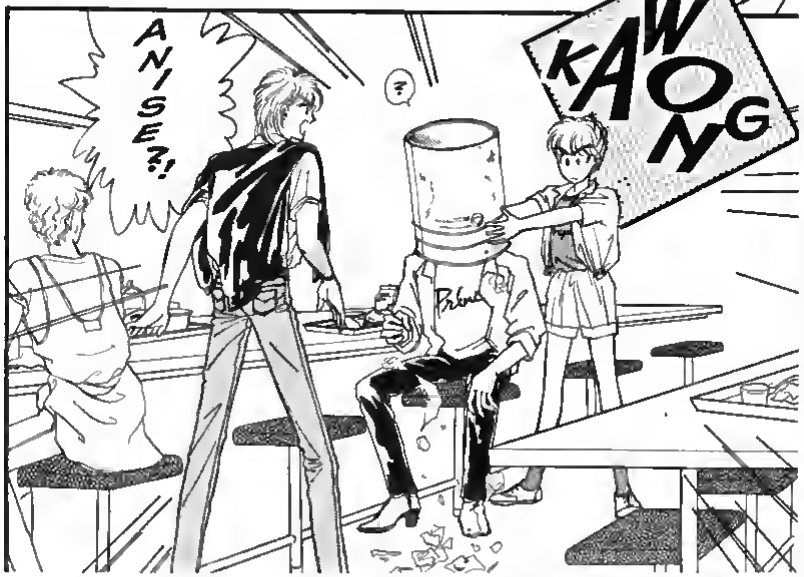

THERE YOU GO.
TRIGHT'S.
BEING GLOOMY DOESN'T SUIT ME ANYWAY.
GOTTA THINK POSITIVE!
WHO SAYS SIVA IS A HAPPY TOPIC?
YOU WERE JUST TALKING TRASH ABOUT HIM.
LET'S TALK ABOUT SOMETHING HAPPY.
WHERE IS SIVA? IS HE LATE?
I'M JUST A LITTLE JEALOUS.
'CAUSE SIVA DOESN'T PAY ATTENTION TO ME.
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
YOU CAN BE SO CLUELESS.


WHAT?!
CALM DOWN.
WHAT'S THE MATTER? DON'T YOU SPEAK ENGLISH? APOLOGIZE!
APOLOGIZE TO CI--UH, TO SIVA!
GARBAGE SUITS YOU, JERK!
WH--
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING, YOU LITTLE...

GRAB


YOU WANT ME TO STOP YOU! YOU DON'T WANT ME TO STOP YOU.
WHICH IS IT?
BUT--
LET ME GO!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! LET ME GO!

.....
WELL, IT'S THE TRUTH!
IF YOU GOT SOMETHING TO SAY, SAY IT!


ANISE?!
?
KAWONG

YOUR PROBLEM IS, YOU ALWAYS CHARGE HEAD-FIRST.
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO MANEUVER BEHIND THE SCENES.
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?
I COULD NEVER DO SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
HUH?
ARE YOU HUN-GRY?

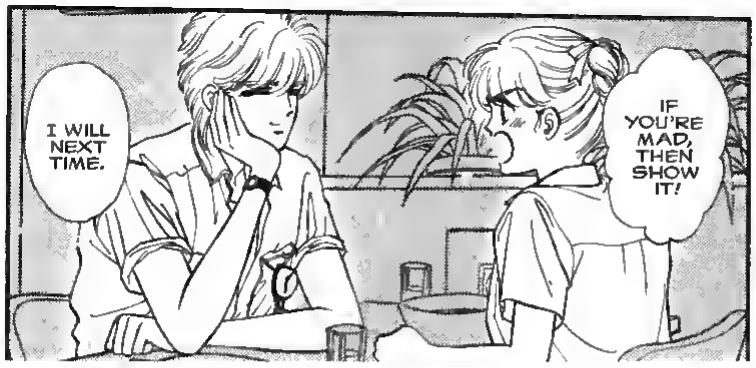
WHY WEREN'T YOU ANGRY?
MENU

I'LL TREAT.
I DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING BACK TO THE CAFETERIA. LET'S EAT OUT.

THAT'S EASIER SAID THAN DONE.
BUT...
LUB
THIS IS DIFFERENT!
I WAS GONNA MAKE HIM APOLO--
SHOCK
...YOU'D EVEN SAY THAT!
I CAN'T BE-LIEVE...
WHAT ARE YOU SO ANGRY ABOUT?
I WASN'T EVEN THAT ANGRY MY-SELF.
I CAN'T JUST SIT BACK AND LISTEN TO STUFF LIKE THAT.
THINK ABOUT HOW CIPHER WOULD FEEL!

DING DONG
HEY!
CIPHER?!

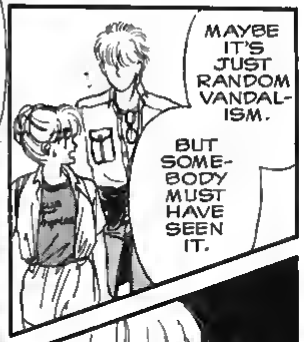
SHOYU $2.70
$2.65
YAKIS $2
MISO $2.70
YOU SEEM HAPPY SOMEHOW, CIPHER.
REALLY?
YOU'RE POSITIVELY BEAMING.
YOU SHOULD BE MAD.
I AM MAD.
SMILE

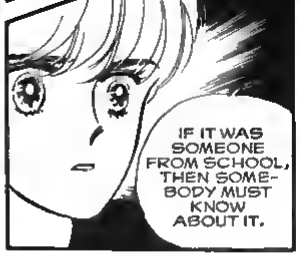

I WILL NEXT TIME.
IF YOU'RE MAD, THEN SHOW IT!

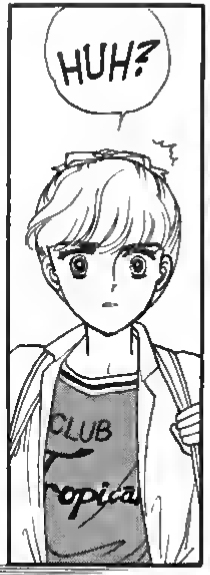
I DON'T KNOW.
WHAT'S THIS?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

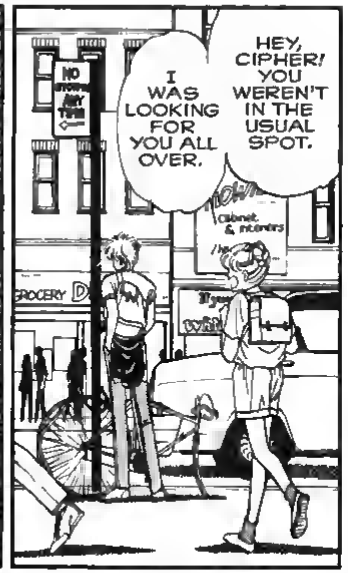
IT SEEMS HE'S DISLIKED ME FROM A LONG TIME AGO.
IT'S PROBABLY THE GUY FROM THIS AFTERNOON.

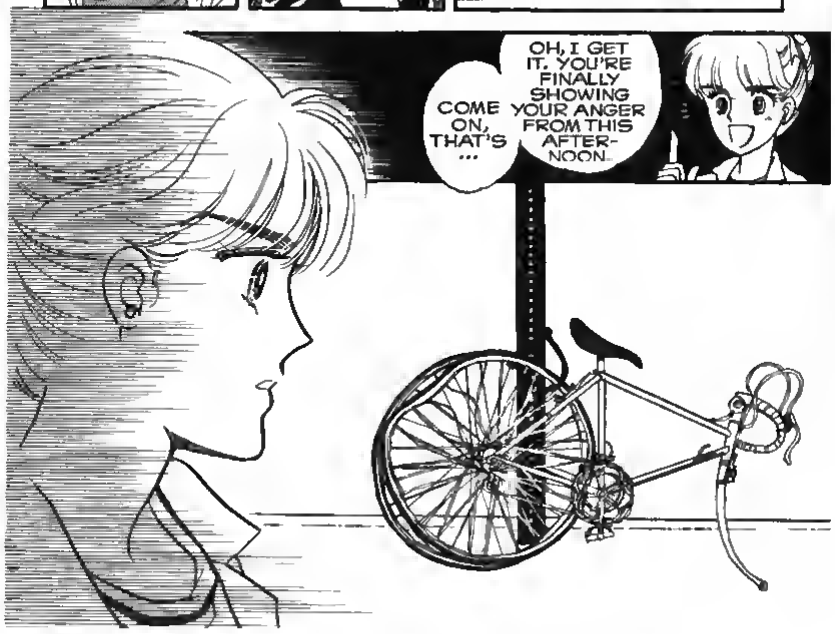
ANYWAY...
I'LL GO TALK TO THAT GUY.


MAYBE IT'S JUST RANDOM VANDALISM.
BUT SOMEBODY MUST HAVE SEEN IT.


IF IT WAS SOMEONE FROM SCHOOL, THEN SOMEBODY MUST KNOW ABOUT IT.

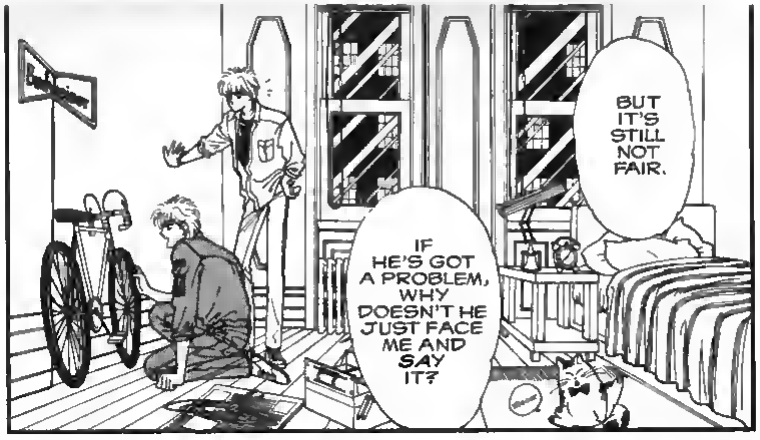

HUH?
CLUB
Tropical


HEY, CIPHER! YOU WEREN'T IN THE USUAL SPOT.
I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU ALL OVER.
NO STOPPING ANY TIME
GROCERY

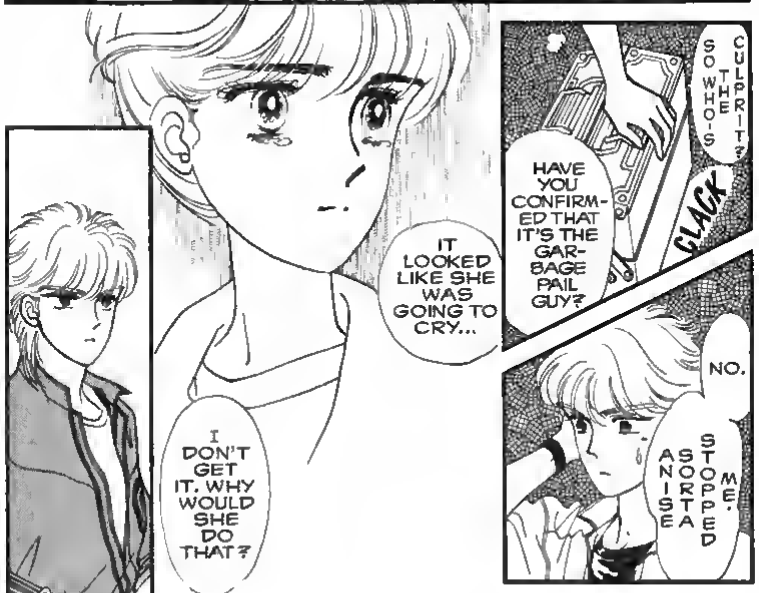

OH, I GET IT. YOU'RE FINALLY SHOWING YOUR ANGER FROM THIS AFTERNOON.
COME ON, THAT'S ...

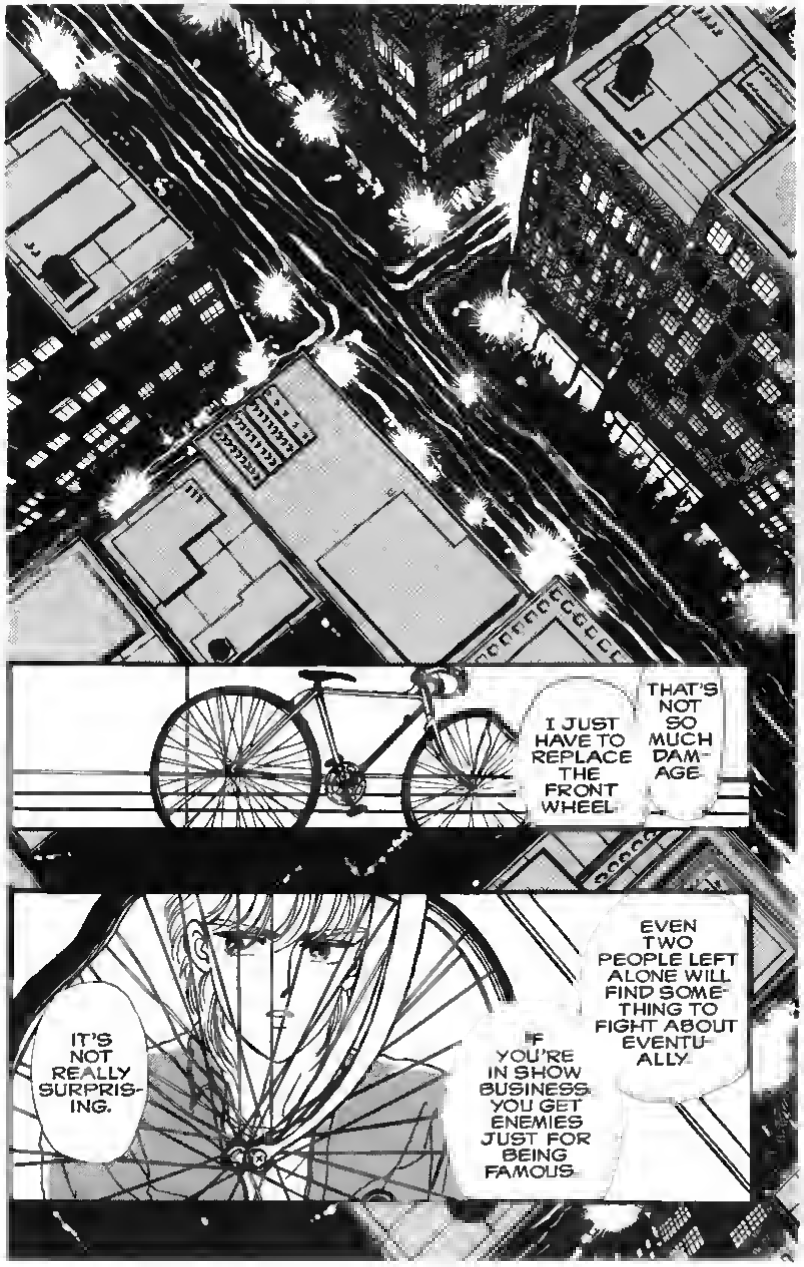
SORRY, IT'S NOTHING.
I'M GOING HOME.

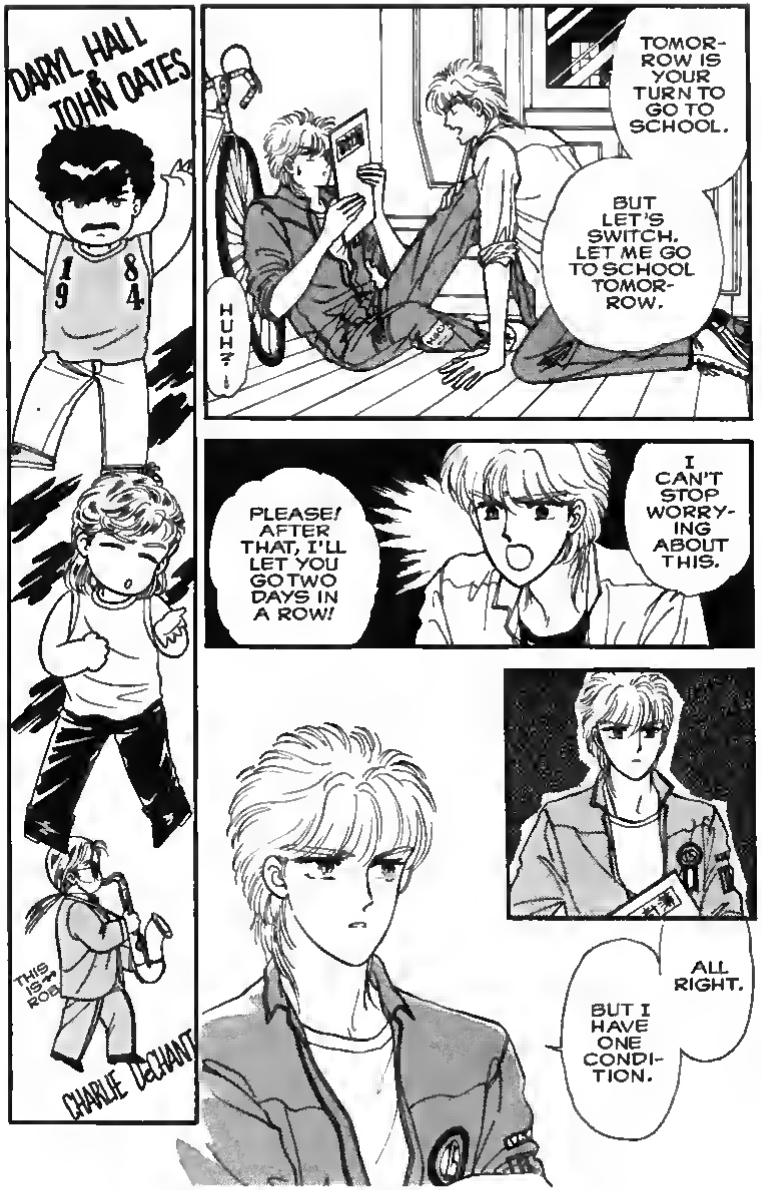
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID I SHOULD SHOW MY ANGER!
OR MAYBE HE REGRETS IT NOW.
MAYBE HE DID IT WITHOUT THINKING.
WAIT!
EVEN IF THE GUY ADMITS HE DID SOMETHING WRONG, YOU HAVE TO FORGIVE HIM.
NO AMOUNT OF APOLOGIZING OR FORGIVING WILL CHANGE THAT!
SOMEBODY DID IT--THAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING AT.
BUT ANYWAY, I WANT TO KNOW WHO DID THIS.
ANISE?!


BUT IT'S STILL NOT FAIR.
IF HE'S GOT A PROBLEM, WHY DOESN'T HE JUST FACE ME AND SAY IT?

ARE YOU SAYING I'M NOT HONEST?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "REALLY?"
DO YOU REALLY THINK LIKE THAT, JAKE?


I DON'T GET IT. WHY WOULD SHE DO THAT?
IT LOOKED LIKE SHE WAS GOING TO CRY...
HAVE YOU CONFIRMED THAT IT'S THE GARBAGE PAIL GUY?
SO WHO'S THE CULPRIT?
CLACK
NO.
ASSORTED ANISE STOPPED ME.


I JUST HAVE TO REPLACE THE FRONT WHEEL
THAT'S NOT SO MUCH DAMAGE
IT'S NOT REALLY SURPRISING.
IF YOU'RE IN SHOW BUSINESS YOU GET ENEMIES JUST FOR BEING FAMOUS
EVEN TWO PEOPLE LEFT ALONE WILL FIND SOMETHING TO FIGHT ABOUT EVENTUALLY


DARYL HALL & JOHN OATES
1984
THIS IS MY ROOM
CHARLIE DeCHANT
TOMORROW IS YOUR TURN TO GO TO SCHOOL.
BUT LET'S SWITCH. LET ME GO TO SCHOOL TOMORROW.
HUH?
I CAN'T STOP WORRYING ABOUT THIS.
PLEASE! AFTER THAT, I'LL LET YOU GO TWO DAYS IN A ROW!
ALL RIGHT.
BUT I HAVE ONE CONDITION.

Flat out
THE CULPRIT WHO DAMAGED THE BIKE WAS ANISE HERSELF!
THERE IS ONLY ONE REASON FOR THAT.
JUST WHEN YOU WERE ABOUT TO GO AFTER THE CULPRIT, ANISE GOT UPSET.
LET'S CONSIDER IT.
HERE IS WHAT I THINK.
HM?
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SAYING?!
MORON!
SHE'D NEVER DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
UH... WELL...
JAKE!
.....
ASSUMING THAT'S TRUE...
...WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHY SHE CRIED.

CIPHER, IS THAT YOU? IT IS YOU, ISN'T IT?
BUT ISN'T TODAY SIVA'S TURN?
UH... YEAH, IT'S ME.
I SWITCHED WITH HIM.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, ANISE? ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M FINE. OF COURSE
WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
THAT IS WHAT I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU.
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT, YESTERDAY?
DID I SAY SOMETHING THAT BOTHERED YOU?
大

WHAT KINDA WORKING CONDITION IS THIS?
HEY, COME ON. HURRY UP AND FINISH CLEANING, CINDERELLA.
WHAT THE...?
?
大将
365
HI!
HI!
大将

HEY, YOU!
WHAT THE HECK DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
UH...
WHAT HAP-PENED?
?
ANISE?
WHAT'S ALL THE COMMO-TION?
murmur
murmur
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING ...
flinch
!
NO, RUTH! IT'S NOT THAT!
I HAVE A TOOTH-ACHE!
A TOOTH-ACHE?
uh...
DIDN'T. NO, YOU
IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU. FORGET ABOUT IT.
HEY! WHAT DO YOU MEAN IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH ME?
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
I'M TRYING HARD TO FORGET IT, SO STOP MAKING ME REMEM-BER!
DON'T TALK TO ME!
BUNN
?!
HUH?!

UH... GUESS. THANKS. I...
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE.
FORGET IT.
LATER.
HOMEROOM IS STARTING.
YEAH.
WHACK

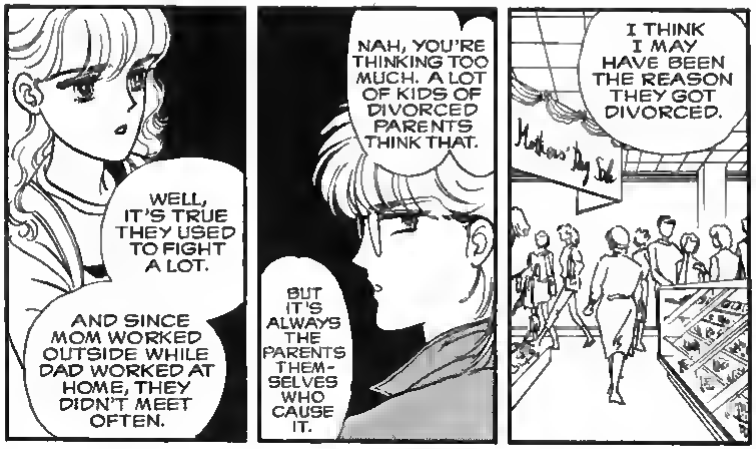
WHAT?!
OH, GIMME A BREAK!
YEAH! YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!
AND SIVA IS GETTING IN YOUR BUSINESS, IS HE?
AH!
THAT'S WHY.
I TOOK A PAIN-KILLER TO TRY AND FORGET ABOUT IT.
IT'S BEEN HURTING ALL MORNING, BUT I CAN'T GET AN APPOINTMENT WITH MY DENTIST.
!
WHAT?!
BUT I'VE BEEN SEEING HIM SINCE I WAS THREE.
THAT BITES ABOUT YOUR DENTIST, THOUGH. WHY DON'T YOU FIND ANOTHER?
THANKS, RUTH.
WHAT? FOR
TELL YOUR DENTIST TO BE CAREFUL WITH THAT TOOTH.
sigh.
.....

THIS IS MORE IMPORTANT.
THAT WAS A PRETTY HARD SPRINT.
TIRED?
PANT-

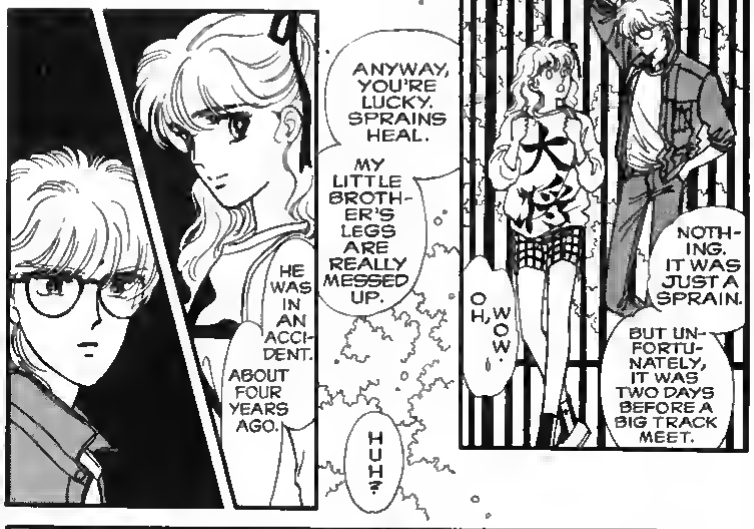
LET'S SKIP SCHOOL!
YOU CAN'T GO TO CLASS WHEN YOU HAVE SUCH A BAD "TOOTH-ACHE," NOW CAN YOU?
AND YOUR GRADES ARE OKAY, RIGHT?
WHAT ABOUT YOU? ARE YOUR GRADES OKAY?
THERE'S OH, A SECURITY GUARD AT THE EN-TRANCE.
WE BETTER RUN.
AH!
O-OKAY!
THIS IS MORE IM-POR-TANT.
LET'S GO!

AS LONG AS YOU DON'T IMITATE SOMEBODY, THERE'S NOTHING TO COMPARE YOU TO.
WHEN YOU GET TO THE TOP, NOBODY CAN DECIDED WHO'S NUMBER ONE OR NUMBER TWO.
YOU'RE LUCKY TO BE AN ACTOR.
FLAP FLAP
DEPENDS ON TALENT, PERSONALITY AND LUCK!
THINKING ABOUT IT, IT'S HARDER THAN RUNNING TRACK.
FLAP
EVERYBODY CAN BE NUMBER ONE.
WHEN I HURT MY LEG, THAT'S WHEN WE DECIDED WE'D BOTH BE ACTORS.
OF COURSE, IT'S REALLY HARD TO GET TO THAT LEVEL.
WHAT HAPPENED?! YOUR LEG?!

WHAT ABOUT ACTING?
CAN YOU MAKE IT TO NUMBER ONE THERE?
WE BOTH WERE.
HOW'D YOU KNOW?
THAT WAS FAST!
WEREN'T YOU ON THE TRACK TEAM IN JUNIOR HIGH?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE NUMBER ONE.
I HEARD YOU SET A RECORD.
YOU HAD TALENT. WHY'D YOU QUIT?
BECAUSE I COULDN'T BE NUMBER ONE.
I WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH, BUT THAT WAS IT.
MIGHT HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IF I SWITCHED TO LONG DISTANCE.


WELL, IT'S TRUE THEY USED TO FIGHT A LOT.
AND SINCE MOM WORKED OUTSIDE WHILE DAD WORKED AT HOME, THEY DIDN'T MEET OFTEN.
NAH, YOU'RE THINKING TOO MUCH. A LOT OF KIDS OF DIVORCED PARENTS THINK THAT.
BUT IT'S ALWAYS THE PARENTS THEMSELVES WHO CAUSE IT.
I THINK I MAY HAVE BEEN THE REASON THEY GOT DIVORCED.
Mothers' Day Sale

BUT THE REAL TRIGGER WAS...
BUT THAT'S WHY IT'S FUN!
NO.
THE RAIN CAUSES FLOODS AND HIGH CURRENTS. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS.
THE RACCOONS ARE GONNA COME OUT TO PLAY.
WHEN IT...
...STOPS RAINING, CAN I GO DOWN TO THE RIVER?
I SAID, "NO!"
OF COURSE HE SAID NO.

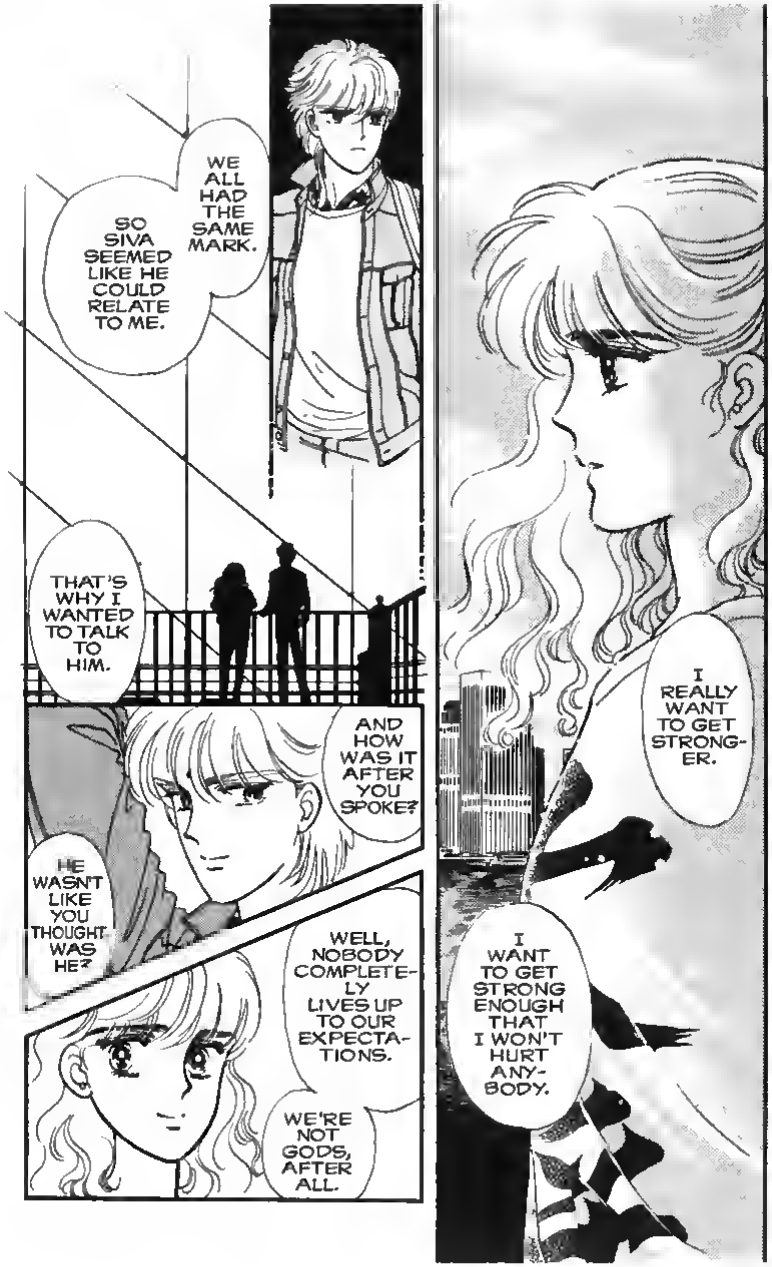

HE WAS IN AN ACCIDENT. ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO.
ANYWAY, YOU'RE LUCKY. SPRAINS HEAL.
MY LITTLE BROTHER'S LEGS ARE REALLY MESSED UP.
HUH?
OH, WOW.
NOTHING. IT WAS JUST A SPRAIN.
BUT UNFORTUNATELY, IT WAS TWO DAYS BEFORE A BIG TRACK MEET.

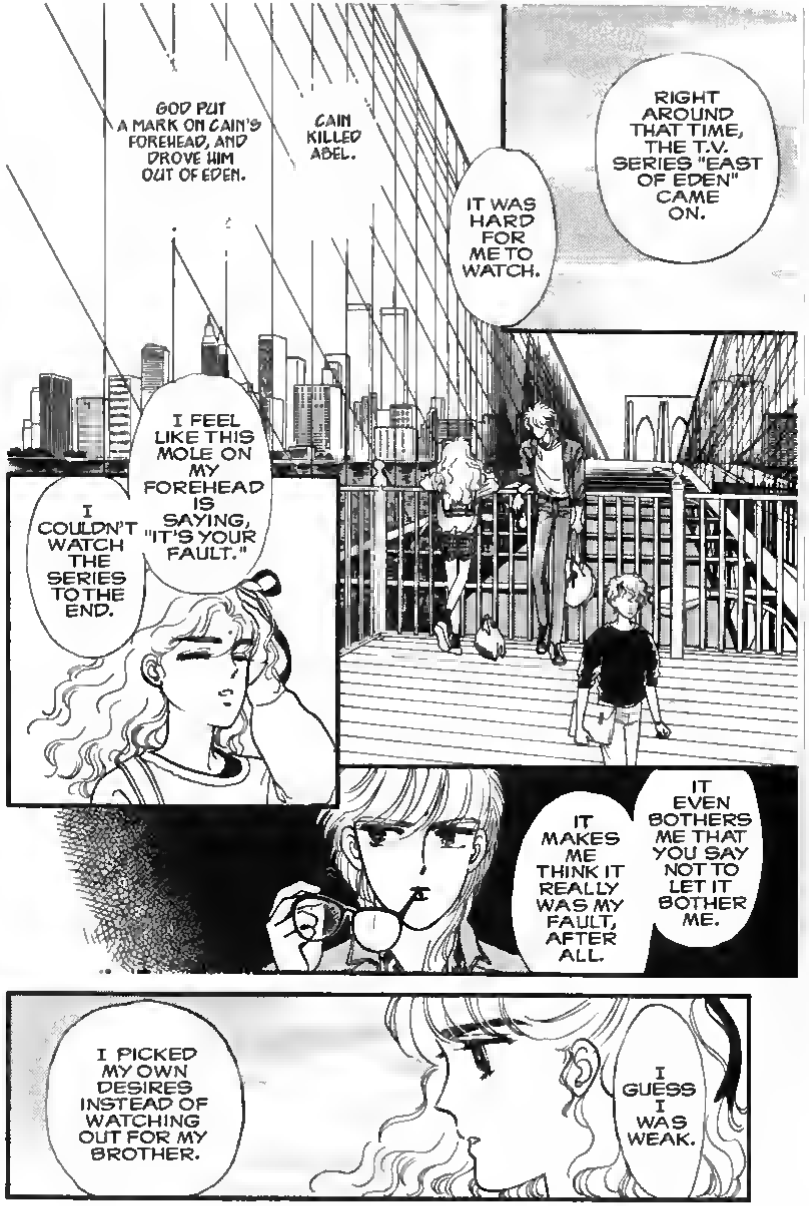
NOW THERE'S A REAL PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP.

BLOOMING
YES.
NEITHER OF MY PARENTS REMARRIED.
THEY DON'T LOOK MUCH LIKE EACH OTHER.
WHAT ABOUT YOU? IS YOUR FAMILY LIKE THAT?

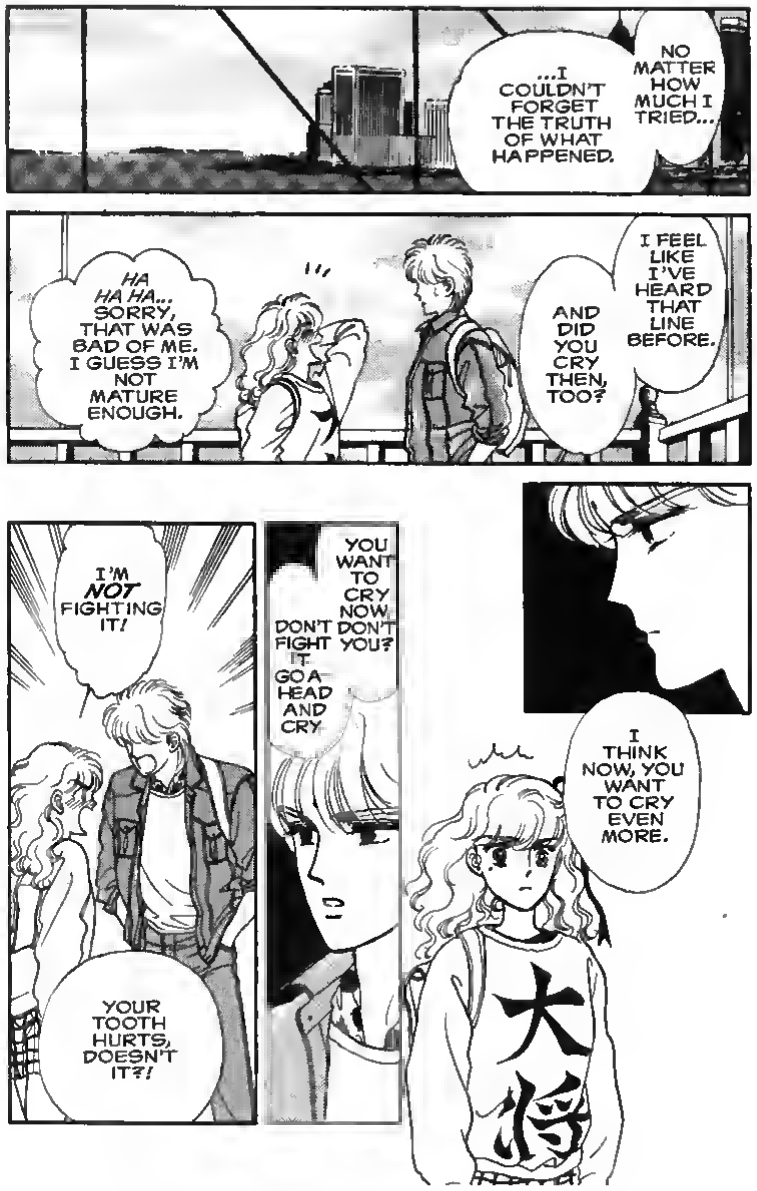
THAT'S WHEN HE HAD THE ACCI-DENT.
DO YOU KNOW THE STORY OF CAIN AND ABEL?
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
DON'T LET IT BOTH-ER YOU.
IN RETRO-SPECT, THEY STARTED DOING THAT A LITTLE TOO FAST.
THEY STARTED GOING TO A PSYCHIATRIST AND DIVORCE MEDIA-TORS.
NEITHER MOM OR DAD GOT ANGRY AT ME.
INSTEAD, THEY GOT MAD AT EACH OTHER.

THOSE KIDS ARE STILL IN KINDER-GARTEN.
THAT'S EVEN WORSE!
BUT I WAS GONNA INVITE BILLY AND JOHN.
YOU'RE IN CHARGE, ANISE.
ALL RIGHT, THEN. GO WITH THEM.
WHAT HAS THAT GOT TO DO WITH ANY-THING?
ANISE, YOU DO REALIZE THAT YOU'RE A GIRL, RIGHT?
THEN IT'S OKAY, RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY, ROB. I'LL GO WITH THEM.
IN REALITY, I WAS SICK OF PLAYING WITH YOUNGER KIDS.
I JUST TOLD THEM THAT THEY HAD TO STAY OUT OF THE RIVER.
MY BROTHER KEPT HIS PROMISE, AND DID WHAT I TOLD HIM.
BUT IT WAS AFTER THAT, ON THE WAY HOME
THEN I HOOKED UP WITH SOME FRIENDS AND WENT TO PLAY SOCCER.


WE ALL HAD THE SAME MARK.
SO SIVA SEEMED LIKE HE COULD RELATE TO ME.
THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO TALK TO HIM.
AND HOW WAS IT AFTER YOU SPOKE?
HE WASN'T LIKE YOU THOUGHT WAS HE?
WELL, NOBODY COMPLETELY LIVES UP TO OUR EXPECTATIONS.
WE'RE NOT GODS, AFTER ALL.
I REALLY WANT TO GET STRONGER.
I WANT TO GET STRONG ENOUGH THAT I WON'T HURT ANYBODY.

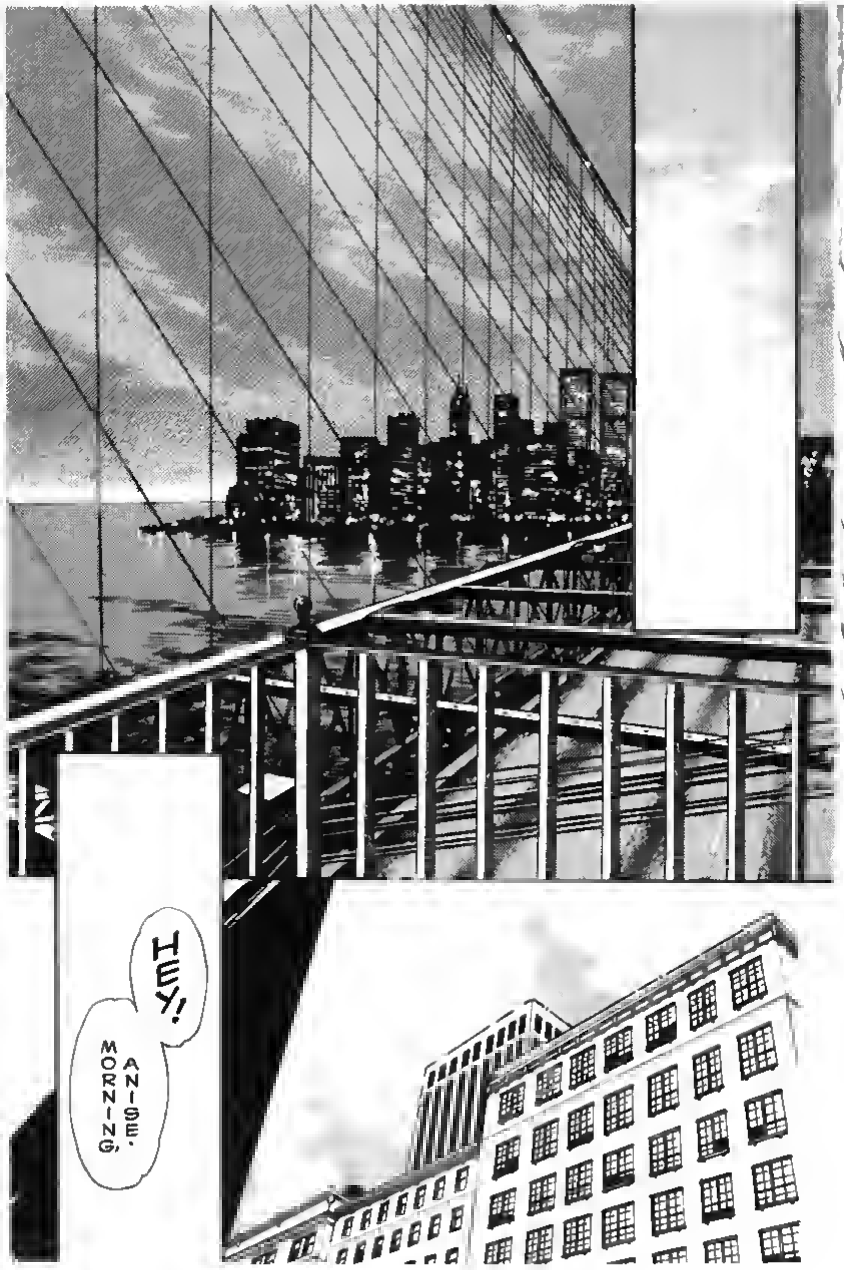

GOD PUT A MARK ON CAIN'S FOREHEAD, AND DROVE HIM OUT OF EDEN.
CAIN KILLED ABEL.
IT WAS HARD FOR ME TO WATCH.
RIGHT AROUND THAT TIME, THE T.V. SERIES "EAST OF EDEN" CAME ON.
I COULDN'T WATCH THE SERIES TO THE END.
I FEEL LIKE THIS MOLE ON MY FOREHEAD IS SAYING, "IT'S YOUR FAULT."
IT MAKES ME THINK IT REALLY WAS MY FAULT, AFTER ALL.
IT EVEN BOTHERS ME THAT YOU SAY NOT TO LET IT BOTHER ME.
I PICKED MY OWN DESIRES INSTEAD OF WATCHING OUT FOR MY BROTHER.
I GUESS I WAS WEAK.

WHAT WAS THAT FOR?!
IF IT HURTS THEN CRY!
GO ON! CRY!
SLAP
YOU SON OF A...
IT REALLY HURTS, DOESN'T IT?
THERE, SEE?


NO MATTER HOW MUCH I TRIED...
...I COULDN'T FORGET THE TRUTH OF WHAT HAPPENED.
I FEEL LIKE I'VE HEARD THAT LINE BEFORE.
AND DID YOU CRY THEN, TOO?
HA HA HA... SORRY, THAT WAS BAD OF ME. I GUESS I'M NOT MATURE ENOUGH.
I'M NOT FIGHTING IT!
YOUR TOOTH HURTS, DOESN'T IT?!
YOU WANT TO CRY NOW, DON'T YOU? DON'T FIGHT IT. GO AHEAD AND CRY
I THINK NOW, YOU WANT TO CRY EVEN MORE.

WELL...
...IT MEANS YOU CAN MAKE A QUILT FOR SOMEONE...
...OR YOU CAN ESCAPE WITH SOMEONE.
ha
...
I GOT US SOME FOOD.
SAY, I FORGOT.
YOUR NOSE IS RUNNING.
HERE.
sniff
THANKS
ARE YOU GONNA CRY OR EAT? MAKE UP YOUR MIND.
difficulty breathing
It's hard to be honest.
Try the opposite.
AH...
OKAY...

DON'T THINK SO MUCH.
JAKE SAYS THAT, IF THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE, IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT THEY FIGHT.
THE OPPOSITE?
IT'S OKAY. IT ALSO MEANS YOU CAN DO THE OPPOSITE.
BUT IT'S THE TRUTH.
I HATE THAT KIND OF THINKING!


HEY!
MORNING, ANISE.

WHEN I'M WITH THIS GUY... I DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND TO SMILE...

WHAT, LIKE LADIES UNDER-WEAR?
NO! NOTHING LIKE THAT!
SHOPPING.
IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S DIFFICULT FOR A GUY TO BUY ALONE.
I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY...
...BUT CAN YOU MEET ME AFTER SCHOOL?
WHAT FOR?
THUD
CLOTHES FOR BARBIE.
WE BORROWED THEM FROM THE LITTLE GIRL NEXT DOOR.
WELL THEN, WHERE'D YOU GET THE CLOTHES YOU PUT ON MY POP STAR DOLL?
NO.
I ALWAYS HADA SUSPICION ABOUT THAT.
DOES SIVA HAVE A BARBIE DOLL?

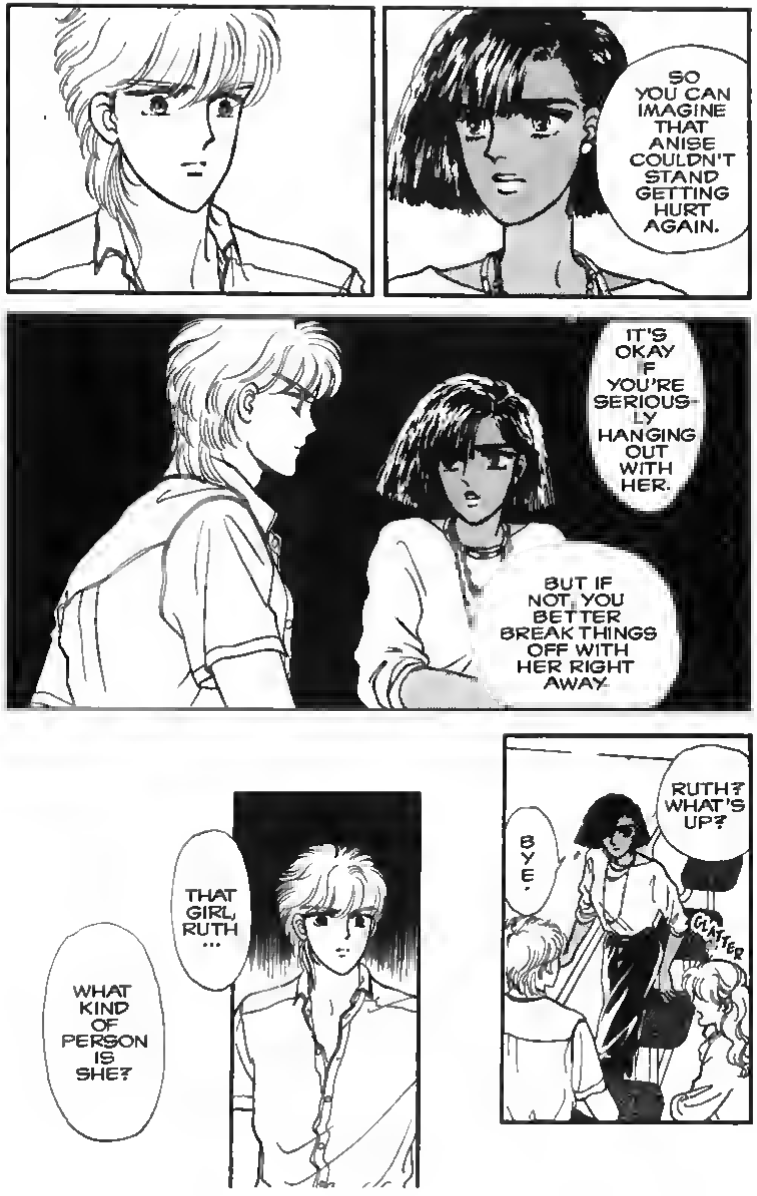
UM...
DID CIPHER TELL YOU ABOUT YESTERDAY?
HM?
365
MORNING!
SIVA? IS THAT YOU?
YEP.
'SUP?
IT'S NOTHING. FORGET ABOUT IT.
OH... NOTHING.
.....

HEY, SIVA.
.....
CAN I COME CRASH WITH YOU GUYS NEXT WEEKEND?
THEN WE CAN HANG OUT WHILE I WORK ON YOUR QUILTS.
SURE! THAT WOULD BE GREAT.
REALLY? THEN YOU CAN HELP ME MAKE DINNER.
UH...
...NAH, THAT'S OKAY.
N-NO!
I'D BE HAPPY TO HELP.
FINE. THEN IT'S SETTLED.
WHAT, YOU DON'T LIKE MY COOKING?
YOU NEED A BREAK SOMETIMES.
AND I WANT TO FEED CIPHER SOME OF MY SPECIAL COOKING.

BUT THAT WAS WEEKS AGO.
YOU WENT TO THAT MUCH TROUBLE?
SURE.
SO I WANT TO PAY HER BACK BY BUYING SOME NEW ONES.
SO HE DID HEAR ABOUT YESTERDAY.
I LOVE TOY STORES!
OKAY, WHATEVER. I'LL MEET YOU AFTER SCHOOL.
I SO THOUGHT
WE'LL BUY SOME FOR YOUR POP STAR DOLL, TOO, IF THERE'S ANYTHING GOOD.

pat pat
AH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I UNDERSTAND COMPLETELY.
ANISE?
DING DONG
OKAY, I'M COMING!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? HOMEROOM IS ABOUT TO START!
.....
DID YOU MAKE UP WITH YOUR "TOOTHACHE?"
HEH HEH... UH, YEAH.
SEE YOU THIS AFTERNOON!
WAVE WAVE

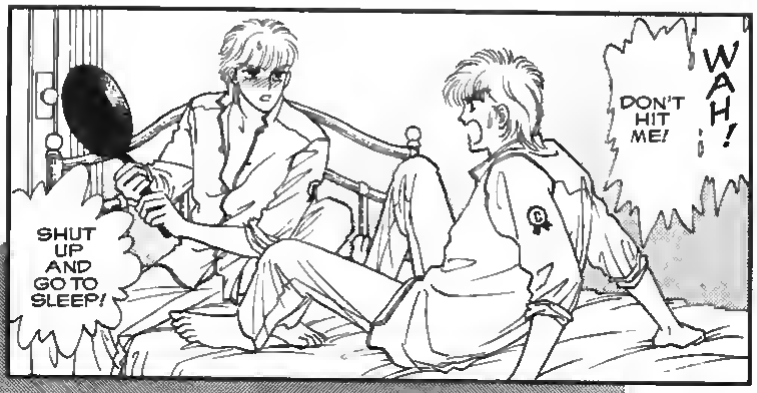
YOU'RE NOT VERY GOOD AT EXPRESSING GRATITUDE ARE YOU, SIVA?
AH...
THANKS...
.....
AREN'T YOU?
AT FIRST GLANCE, YOU ALWAYS LOOK SO COOL.
BUT ACTUALLY, YOU'RE JUST AS EMOTIONAL AS CIPHER.
BUT... I...

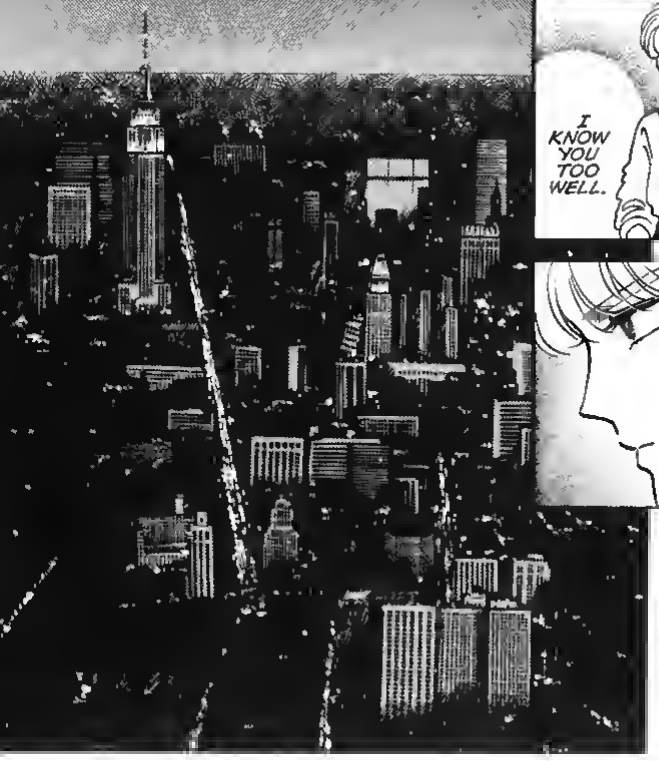

SO YOU CAN IMAGINE THAT ANISE COULDN'T STAND GETTING HURT AGAIN.
IT'S OKAY IF YOU'RE SERIOUSLY HANGING OUT WITH HER.
BUT IF NOT, YOU BETTER BREAK THINGS OFF WITH HER RIGHT AWAY.
RUTH? WHAT'S UP?
BYE.
CHATTER
THAT GIRL, RUTH ...
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS SHE?

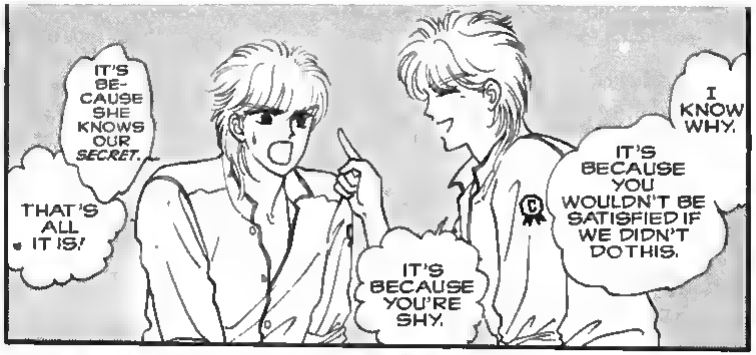
DING DONG
HI.
BY YOURSELF TODAY?
ANISE SHOULD BE HERE ANY MINUTE.
NO, JUST WAITING.
OH.
OH.
THEN I'VE GOT A LITTLE SOMETHING TO ASK YOU.
YEAH.
WELL,
SO.
I GUESS
YOU KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT YOU'RE PRETTY POPULAR WITH GIRLS.
YOU KNOW WHAT ANISE IS LIKE.
SHE WON'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT HERSELF.

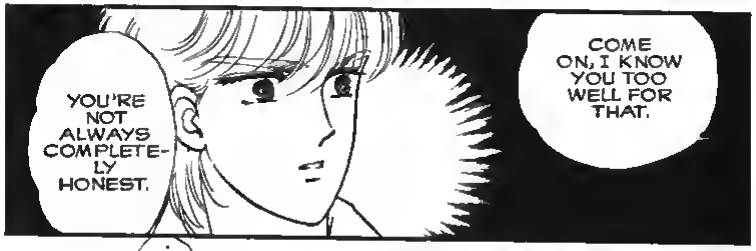
WE'LL DISCUSS AND MAKE SURE OUR STORIES AGREE.
THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO DO.
I THINK I KNOW WHO IT IS THAT'S PICKING ON HER.
YOU'RE NO GOOD AT DECISIVE ACTION, ARE YOU? I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.
IS THAT NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU?
...WHAT IS IT?
JAKE!
I'M JUST SO HAPPY!
GRAB
BUT YOU WEREN'T EVEN THINKING OF THAT, WERE YOU?
IT'D BE SO EASY JUST TO BREAK THINGS OFF WITH ANISE.

HMM.
SHE'S A GOOD FRIEND OF ANISE.
WHEN WE WERE MAKING A FILM IN CLASS SHE DID THE HAIR AND MAKE-UP.
FWAP
THE TWILIGHT ZONE
LISTEN UP, JAKE. WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT ANISE?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO.
WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING, AND SOON.
YOU'RE RIGHT.


SHUT UP AND GO TO SLEEP!
DON'T HIT ME!
WAH!


I KNOW YOU TOO WELL.


IT'S BE-CAUSE SHE KNOWS OUR SECRET.
THAT'S ALL IT IS!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE SHY.
I KNOW WHY.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU WOULDN'T BE SATISFIED IF WE DIDN'T DO THIS.


YOU'RE NOT ALWAYS COMPLETE-LY HONEST.
COME ON, I KNOW YOU TOO WELL FOR THAT.

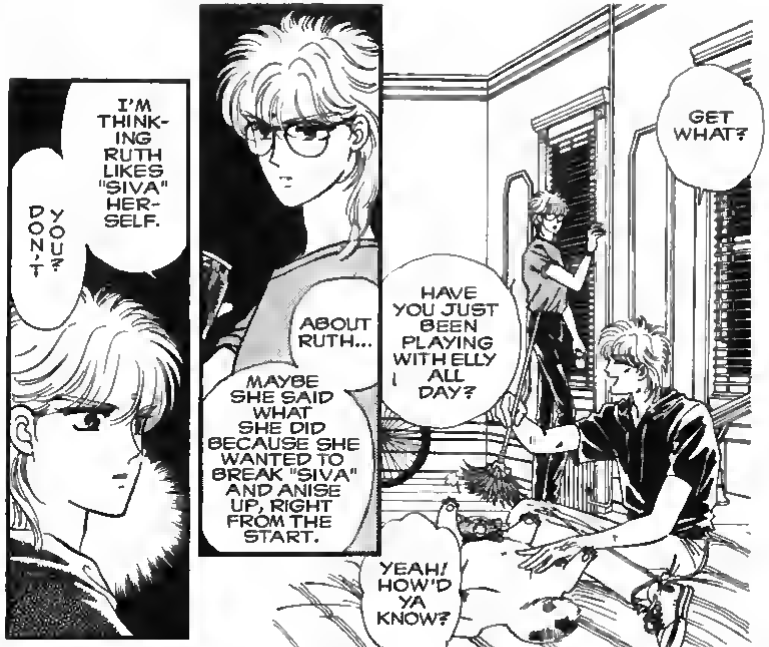
blush
THAT'S SO CUTE!
YEAH.
YOU SWEET THING!

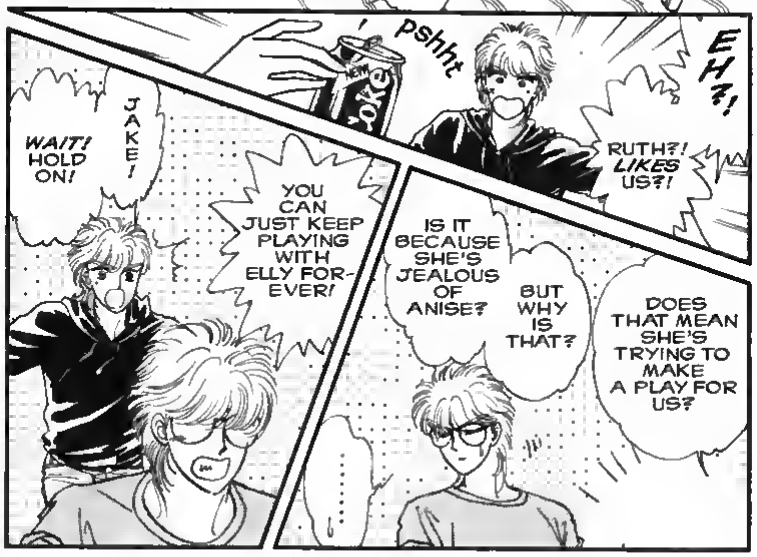
BUT... YOU'RE TOGETHER EVERY DAY.
BUT EVERYBODY THINKS SHE IS.
WE GET ALONG WELL, IS ALL.
THAT JUST SORTA HAPPENED.
PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ASKING ME ABOUT ANISE A LOT RECENTLY.
SHE'S NOT MY GIRLFRIEND OR ANYTHING.
OH...
WHAT DO YOU TALK ABOUT WHEN YOU'RE TOGETHER?
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
DON'T YOU GO TO THE MOVIES, OR OUT TO DINNER?
THEN WE PLAY GAMES, OR WATCH T.V.
SCHOOL... BASEBALL... FOOTBALL... STUFF LIKE THAT.

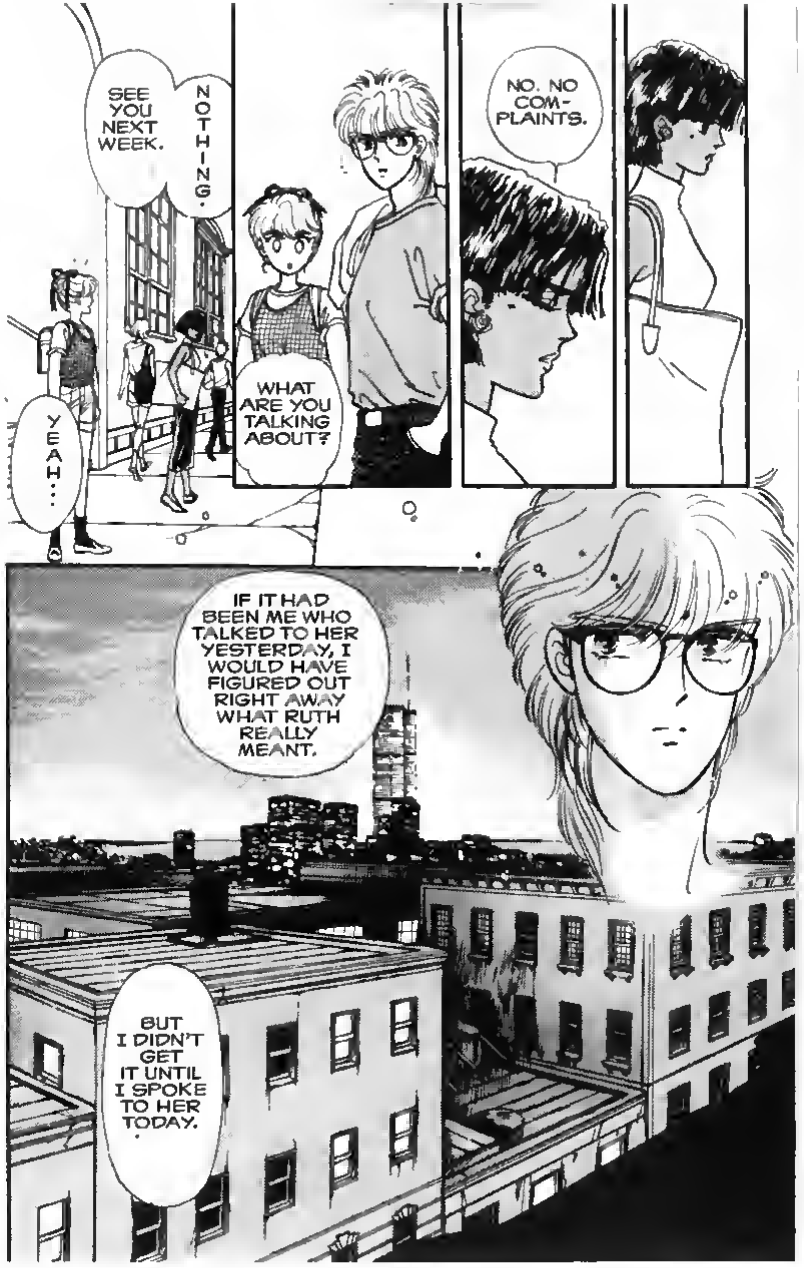
buzz
buzz
buzz
buzz
HEY. YOU ALONE?
YEAH, I'M ALONE
?
YOU'RE ALONE? THAT'S RARE.
WHERE'S ANISE?
SHE'S NOT HERE YET.

WHAT DO MEAN, "THEM?"
HEY.
HI, SIVA.
THEM?
THAT WAS WEIRD. WHAT'S UP WITH THEM?
HI, SIVA!
WELL...
THE MEAN GIRLS.
THE TWO THAT TRIPPED ME.
IT FEELS LIKE THEY DON'T NOTICE ME ANYMORE.
ANYWAY, YOU HAVE NO COMPLAINTS, RIGHT?
NUTHIN'
THAT WAS QUICK. WHAT DID YOU DO?
?
.....

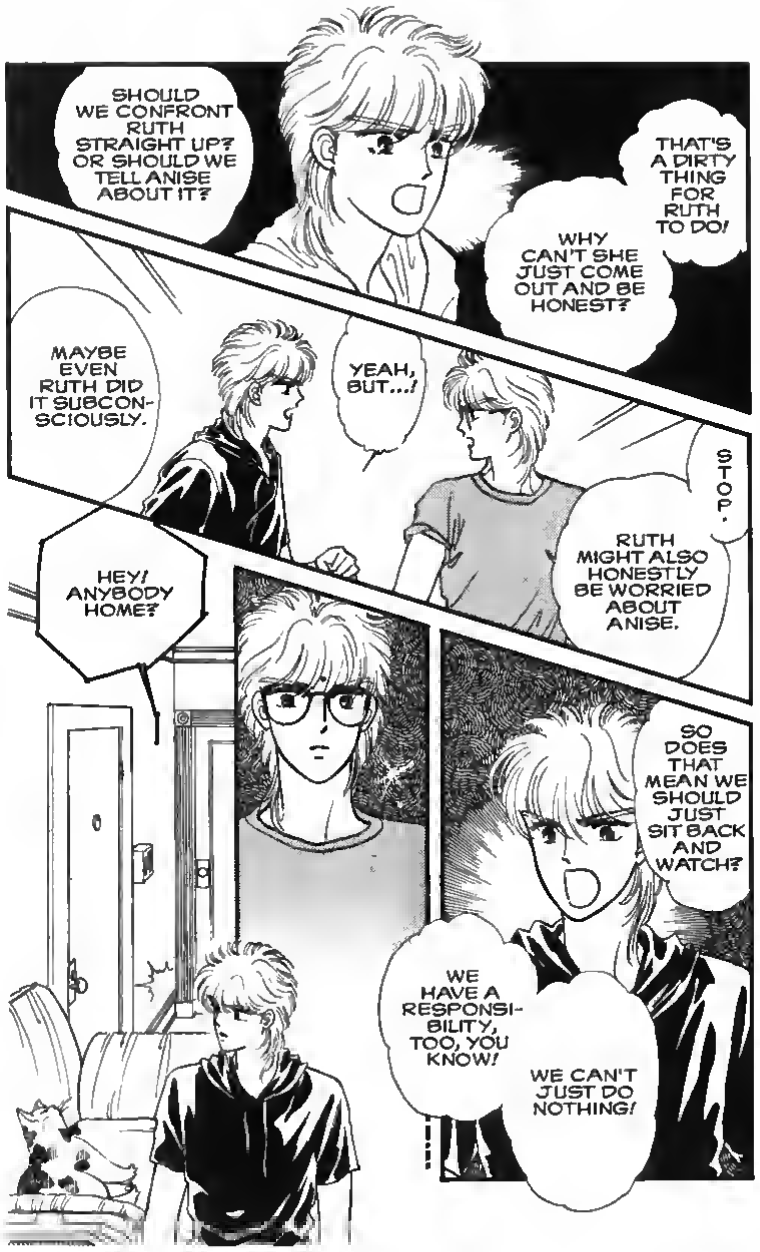
YOU DOING ANYTHING ON SATURDAY?
FOR A DATE LIKE THAT, I WOULD ASK A REAL WOMAN OUT.
.....
CLACK
HEY.
HI, ANISE. HOW YA DOING?
GUESS.
OKAY.
.....
SHINE


I'M THINKING RUTH LIKES "SIVA" HERSELF.
DON'T YOU?
ABOUT RUTH...
MAYBE SHE SAID WHAT SHE DID BECAUSE SHE WANTED TO BREAK "SIVA" AND ANISE UP, RIGHT FROM THE START.
HAVE YOU JUST BEEN PLAYING WITH ELLY ALL DAY?
GET WHAT?
YEAH! HOW'D YA KNOW?


pshht
EH?!
RUTH?! LIKES US?!
WAIT! HOLD ON!
JAKE!
YOU CAN JUST KEEP PLAYING WITH ELLY FOREVER!
IS IT BECAUSE SHE'S JEALOUS OF ANISE?
BUT WHY IS THAT?
DOES THAT MEAN SHE'S TRYING TO MAKE A PLAY FOR US?


SEE YOU NEXT WEEK.
NOTHING.
NO. NO COMPLAINTS.
YEAH...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IF IT HAD BEEN ME WHO TALKED TO HER YESTERDAY, I WOULD HAVE FIGURED OUT RIGHT AWAY WHAT RUTH REALLY MEANT.
BUT I DIDN'T GET IT UNTIL I SPOKE TO HER TODAY.

WHAM!
ANDREW
GEORGE
EVERYTHING SHE WANTS.
SL
AM
SORRY I'M LATE!
THE SHOPPING TOOK LONGER THAN I THOUGHT.
.....
I TOLD YOU I WAS GOING TO MAKE YOU MY SPECIALTY, DIDN'T I? SO I WENT ALL THE WAY TO CHINATOWN TO SHOP.
LOOK AT THIS SHRIMP!


SHOULD WE CONFRONT RUTH STRAIGHT UP? OR SHOULD WE TELL ANISE ABOUT IT?
THAT'S A DIRTY THING FOR RUTH TO DO!
WHY CAN'T SHE JUST COME OUT AND BE HONEST?
MAYBE EVEN RUTH DID IT SUBCONSCIOUSLY.
YEAH, BUT...!
STOP.
RUTH MIGHT ALSO HONESTLY BE WORRIED ABOUT ANISE.
HEY! ANYBODY HOME?
SO DOES THAT MEAN WE SHOULD JUST SIT BACK AND WATCH?
WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY, TOO, YOU KNOW!
WE CAN'T JUST DO NOTHING!

CIPHER, LEND ME YOUR TOOTH-PASTE.
HM...
WAIT A SEC.

WELL? ARE YOU GONNA WARN HER? OR CON-FRONT RUTH?
WHERE'S YOUR FRYING PAN? AND YOUR KNIVES?
I'LL GET THEM.
NO...
FIRST, WE HAVE TO STRAIGHT-EN UP OUR-SELVES.
.....
WOW! LOOK AT ALL THIS! WHAT ARE YOU MAKING?
ASPAR-AGUS! I LOVE ASPARA-GUS!
YOU'LL SEE WHEN IT'S DONE.
OKAY.
DON'T JUST WATCH ME. HELP OUT!
HEY!

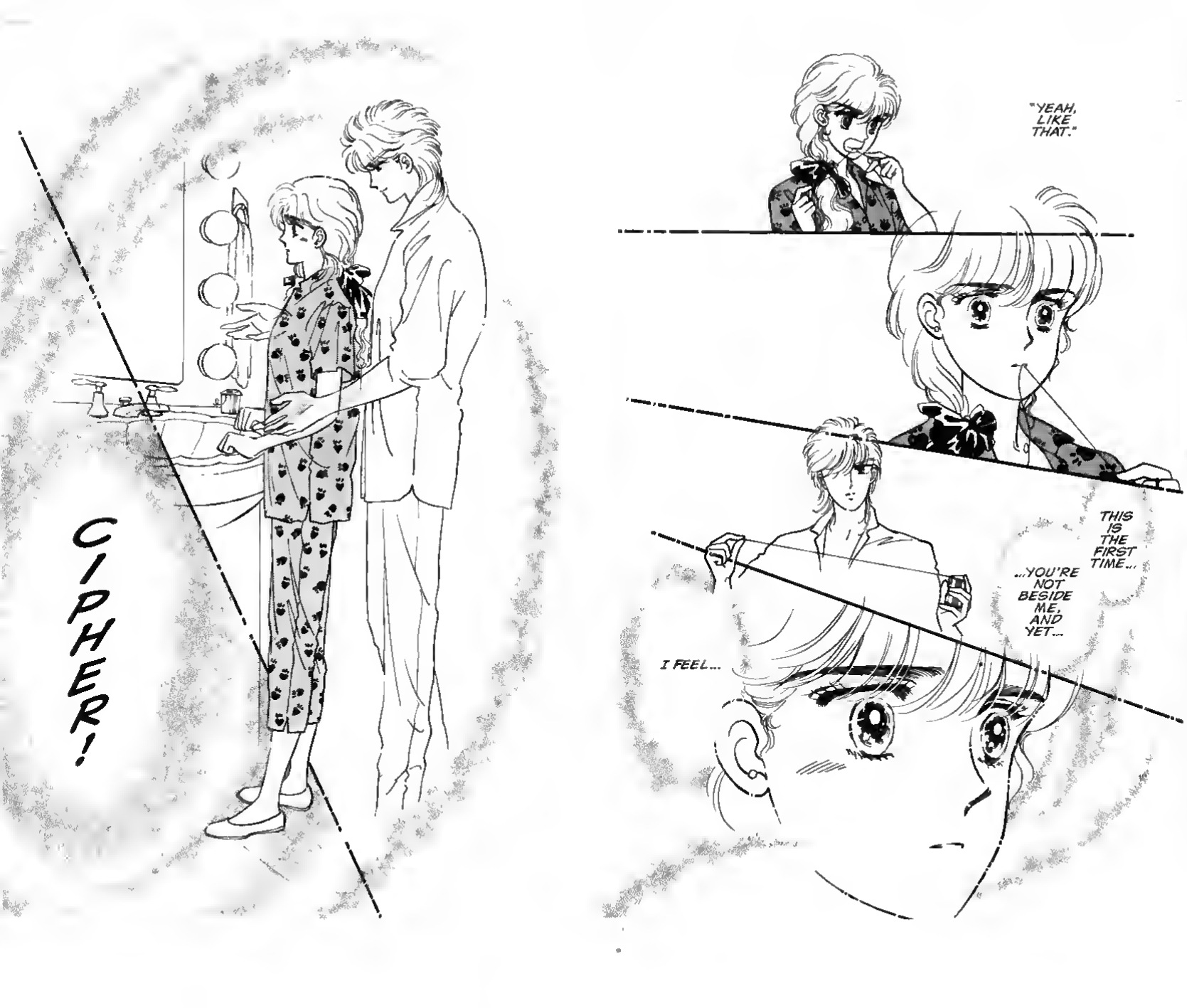
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE.
YOU BETTER GET AN APPOINT-MENT FIRST THING MONDAY.
HAVE YOU BEEN GETTING REGULAR CHECK-UPS?
NO... NOT REALLY.
THAT'S NO GOOD.
THE FLOSS IS FRAY-ING!
DOES THAT MEAN I HAVE A CAVITY?
MAYBE.
I DON'T CARE! I'M NOT GOING!
NOBODY WILL WANT TO KISS YOU WITH A MOUTH FULL OF CAVITIES.
NO! I HATE DENTISTS.
AH...
GRIP
I DON'T NEED ANYBODY KISSING ME!
OH, SO YOU WANT PEOPLE TO THINK YOU'RE A DIM-WITTED BUM?

HUH?
YOU USE DENTAL FLOSS, CIPHER?
DO YOU BRUSH ONLY?
THAT'S A DARTH VADER TOOTH-BRUSH!
oh, boy!
YEAH, AFTER BRUSH-ING.
PRAC-TICE IT. YOU'LL GET GOOD AT IT.
BUT I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT IT.
thread for cleaning between the teeth
fweeee
UNWAXED
FLOSS IS THE MOST IMPOR-TANT THING.
?!
THAT IS E-NOUGH. NOW DO THE NEXT TOOTH.
PULL IT BACK AND FORTH.
NOW PUT IT IN THE BACK.
YEAH, LIKE THAT.
LIKE THIS?
FIRST, OPEN YOUR MOUTH.

DO WHAT YOU WANT.
PLOK
.....!
IS HE ANGRY?

YOU HAVE TO GO.
NO.
I'M FREE TO DO WHAT I WANT!
WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO TALK TO ME LIKE YOU'RE MY PARENT?!
WHY?!
WH...

NOBODY'S EVER ORDERED ME AROUND LIKE THAT BEFORE.
"PRACTICE IT. YOU'LL GET GOOD AT IT."
"FIRST, OPEN YOUR MOUTH. NOW PUT IT IN THE BACK."
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME ANYONE'S SPOKEN TO ME LIKE THAT.
UNWAXED
SO YOU'VE START-ED USING FLOSS.
THAT'S A GOOD HABIT.
I GUESS I SHOULD START FLOSSING, SHOULDN'T I?
NO, I STILL HAVEN'T DECIDED.
YES. I THINK SO.
I KNOW! I KNOW I SHOULD FLOSS AND GET REGULAR CHECK-UPS!
I JUST DON'T LIKE GETTING ORDERED TO DO IT, OUT OF THE BLUE.
?
AND SHOULD I GET REGULAR DENTAL CHECK-UPS, TOO?
YES.
HE LOOKS ANGRY.
Bye!
SLAM
HE'S ANGRY.
FWEEE


CIPHER!
"YEAH, LIKE THAT."
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...
...YOU'RE NOT BESIDE ME, AND YET...
I FEEL...

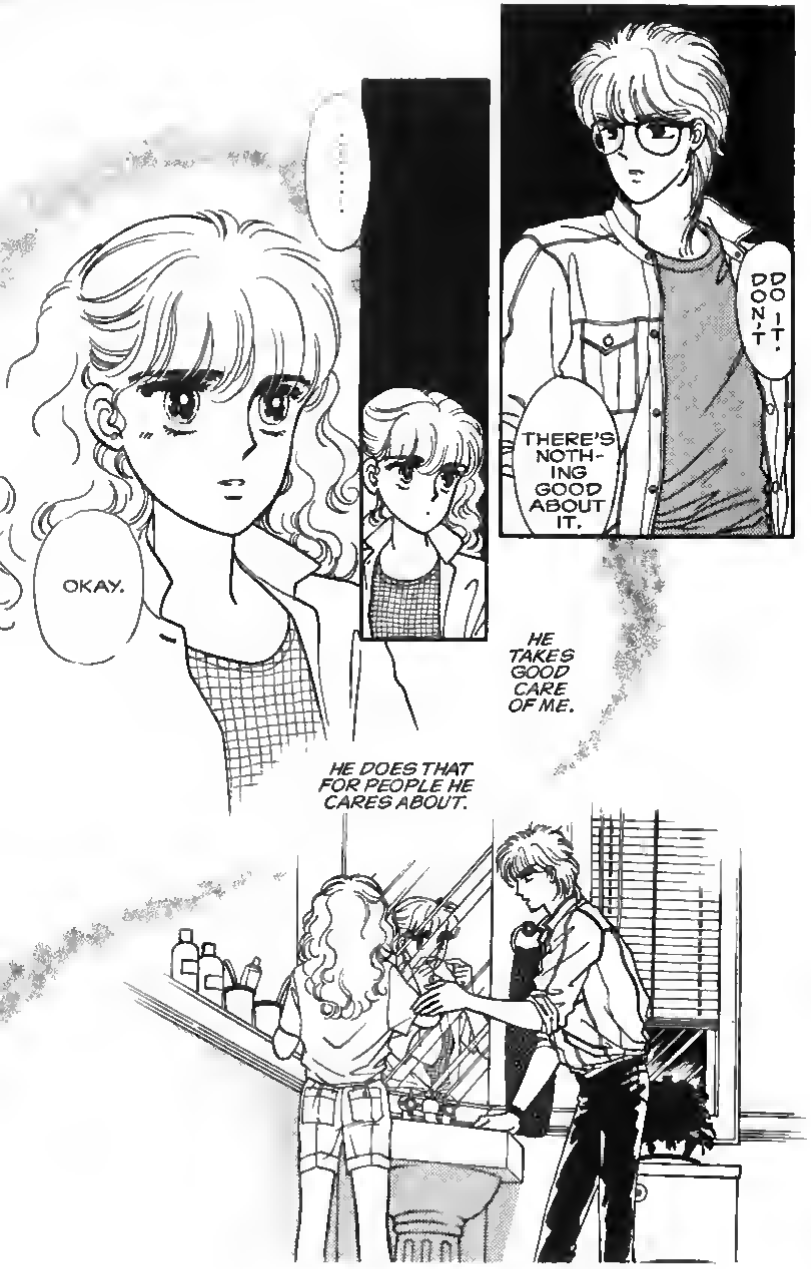
I GOT AN 11:00 APPOINTMENT.
FOR THE DENTIST.
WELL...
UH...
NOW, WHAT IS IT?
CALL ME SIVA.
.....
SO...
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D SAVE A SEAT IN THE CAFETERIA.
I CAN PROBABLY BE BACK BY NOON.
... WILL YOU?

GRAB
CIPHER! GOOD MORNING!
YOU *ARE* CIPHER, RIGHT?

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?
I WONDER IF THEY GOT THIS IDEA FROM WATCHING OUR NEW PROMO VIDEO.
I DUN NO.
I'M STILL THINKING ABOUT HOW TO PLAY AROUND WITH "CIPHER" VOL. 3.
See You Again!
PAT
DON'T BE LATE FOR THE DENTIST.
BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ
"IF YOU MANAGE TO GET INTO HIS HEART, HE REALLY CARES ABOUT YOU."

I'M SORRY ABOUT THE OTHER DAY!
CLENCH
IT'S OKAY.
?!
I'LL SAVE YOU A SEAT.
IT'S OKAY.

WELL, I GUESS YOU CAN'T MAKE IT TODAY.
OF COURSE I KNOW THAT.
BUT I WANT TO COME! NOW I REALLY FEEL LIKE I WANT TO COME!
OKAY, CI-PHER.
OH, WELL...
ah!
IT'S LIKE MANIPULATING PEOPLE IS YOUR SPECIALTY.
HEY!
YOU ROT-TEN...
BEEP BEEP
HONK HONK
ANISE.
CAN YOU COME OVER TO-DAY?
.....
HE ALSO SHOWED ME HOW TO FLOSS, BUT I'M STILL NOT TOO GOOD AT IT.
HMM...
LOOKS LIKE I REALLY DID HAVE A CAVITY.
IT WAS REALLY SMALL, SO HE FIXED IT PRETTY QUICK.
I'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN SPEND ALL MY TIME ON YOU GUYS, YOU KNOW.
I'M BUSY WITH OTHER STUFF, TOO.
THEN YOU CAN JUST MAKE UP THAT MUCH WORK TOMOR-ROW.
IT'LL PUT ME BEHIND SCHED-ULE ON THE QUILTS.
IT'S NOT THAT EASY!


.....
OKAY.
DON'T DO IT.
THERE'S NOTHING GOOD ABOUT IT.
HE TAKES GOOD CARE OF ME.
HE DOES THAT FOR PEOPLE HE CARES ABOUT.

FINE.
ANY-PLACE THAT HAS HOT DOGS.
SPUR OF THE MO-MENT, JUST LIKE AL-WAYS.
CAN'T WE GO SOME-PLACE CLOS-ER?
JUST CALL ME "SPUR-OF-THE-MOMENT" ANISE.
LET'S GO TO THE ZOO!
Okay!
YOU'RE GOOD AT BEING SELFISH.
NO, I DON'T.
I WANT TO TRY IT ONCE.
DO YOU SMOKE, CIPHER?

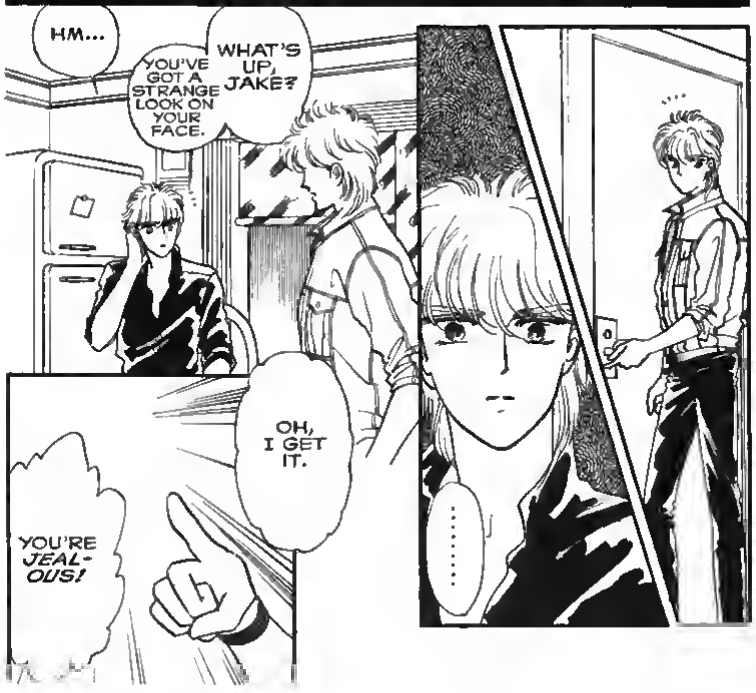
SURE! COME ON OVER.
AND HURRY WITH THE QUILTS.
THEN ON DAYS WHEN YOU CAN'T COME TO SCHOOL ...
...MIND IF I DROP BY AFTER CLASS?
OH, REALLY?
BUT I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T LEAVING FOR L.A. UNTIL SUMMER VACATION.
DON'T BE SO SELFISH.
.....
YEAH.
I BETTER GET HOME.
LATER.
OKAY.
BYE, ANISE.
HEY, CIPHER.
DO YOU WANT TO KISS SOMEONE WITH NO CAVITIES?
!

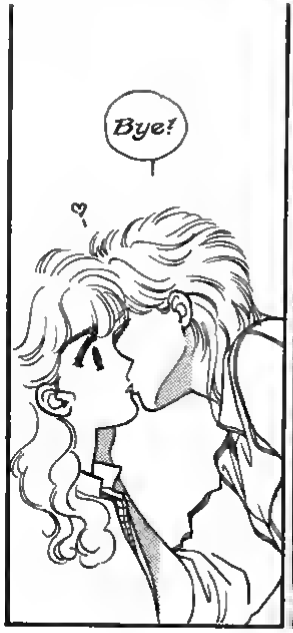
WHETHER HE'S NEAR ME...
...OR NOT AROUND.
WE'LL ONLY BE ABLE TO MEET UP WITH YOU AT SCHOOL.
WE'RE GONNA BE BUSY FOR A WHILE, TOO.

BYE...
HA... HA HA

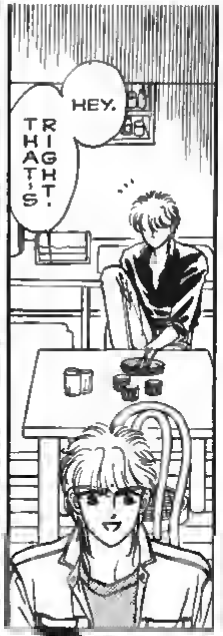
BE CARE-FUL GET-TING HOME.
LATER.

SLAM


HM...
YOU'VE GOT A STRANGE LOOK ON YOUR FACE.
WHAT'S UP, JAKE?
OH, I GET IT.
YOU'RE JEAL-OUS!
.....

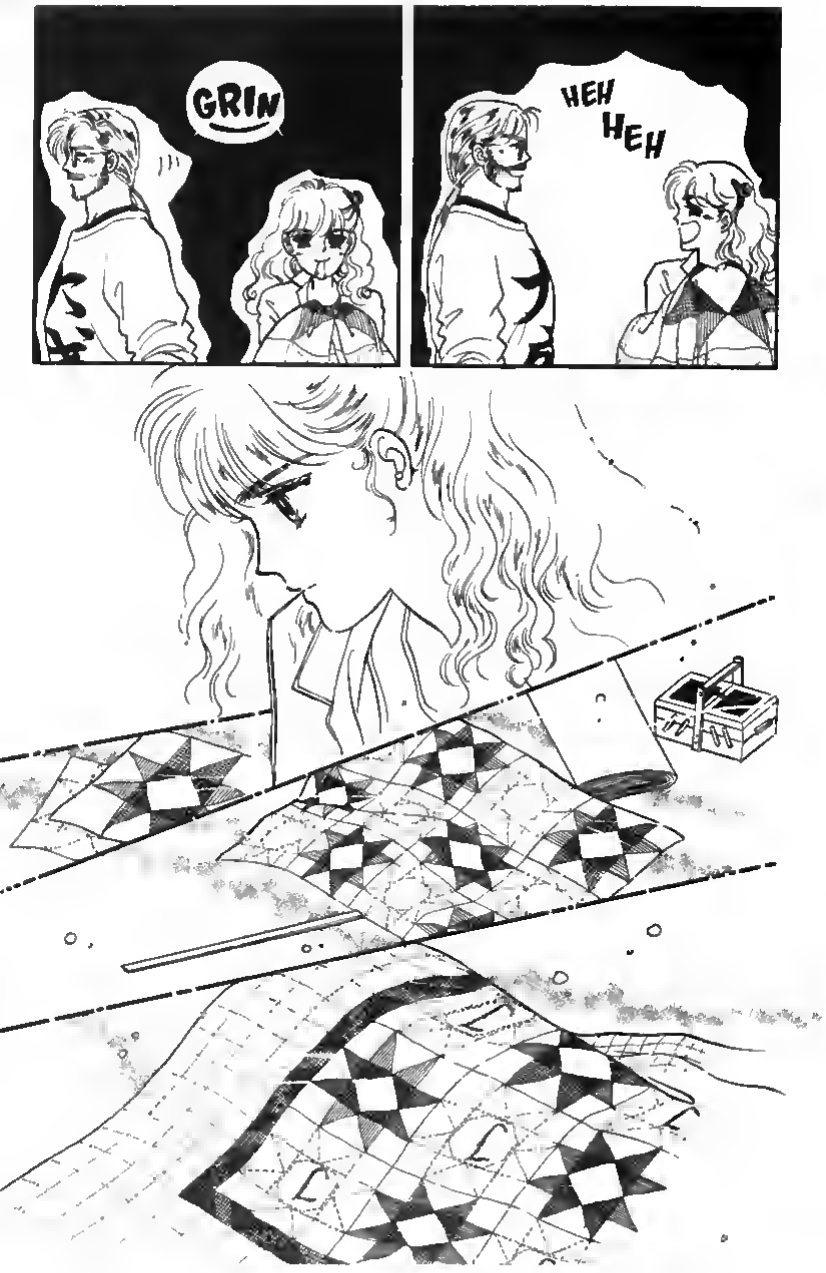

Bye!

UH...

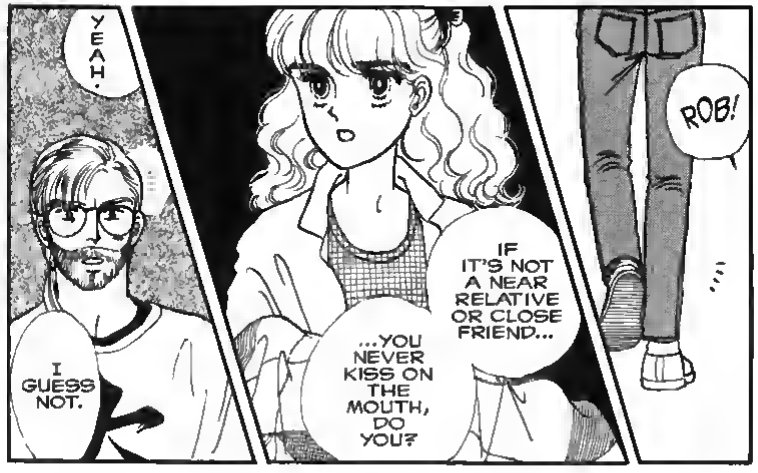

HEY.
THAT'S TRIGHT!

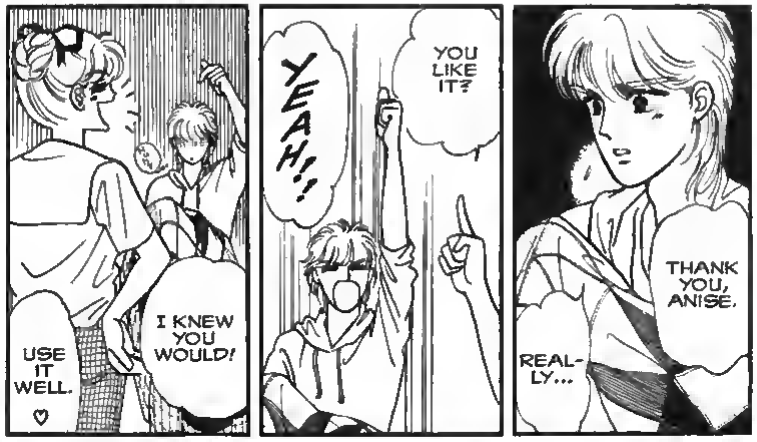
.....

th-thump
WELL...
YEAH, YOU ARE!
EVEN I CAN FIGURE OUT THAT MUCH.
BUT DON'T WORRY.
I LOVE YOU MOST OF ALL, JAKE.
guri guri guri
IT'S HOW I REALLY FEEL.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE JEALOUS!
YOU NEVER GET TIRED OF THE SAME OLD LINE, DO YOU?
BUT FOR WHICH ONE?
YEAH, I'M JEALOUS.
YOU'RE REALLY INTENSE ABOUT THIS ONE.


GRIN
HEH HEH

HOW ABOUT YOU TAKE A BREAK FOR SOME TEA, HUH?
YOU'RE SO DEVOTED TO IT, AREN'T YOU?
TURN
I'M TOO BUSY.
GROOM
WHY DON'T YOU GO WORK QUIETLY AT YOUR DESK?


YEAH.
I GUESS NOT.
...YOU NEVER KISS ON THE MOUTH, DO YOU?
IF IT'S NOT A NEAR RELATIVE OR CLOSE FRIEND...
ROB!


USE IT WELL. ♡
I KNEW YOU WOULD!
YEAH!!
YOU LIKE IT?
REAL-LY...
THANK YOU, ANISE.

WHERE IS CIPHER? DID HE GO OUT?
HE HAD AN EARLY MORNING SHOOT TODAY.
NAH.. HE'S ASLEEP

SHUMP

DONE!
FINISHED JUST IN TIME! BOTH OF 'EM!
NO... IT'S GREAT.
AND I HAD TO CHEAT WITH A MACHINE TO FINISH THE BORDERS.
IT'S JUST A SIMPLE PAT-TERN.

WELL? IS CIPHER STILL ASLEEP?
YEAH.
HE'S TOTALLY CRASHED, SO LET'S LEAVE HIM BE.
YEAH.
WANT SOME TEA?
Scene 2
GRANDMA CLOCK IN HAND
The End

THAT'S MY WATCH IN HIS HAND.

CIPHER

In addition to the many pages of story and art created for *Cipher*, writer and artist Minako Narita has also produced many wonderful individual illustrations over the years featuring the main characters from this beloved series.

From time to time and as space allows, we would like to share some of these images with you. We hope that you enjoy these additional glimpses into the creative vision of this talented illustrator

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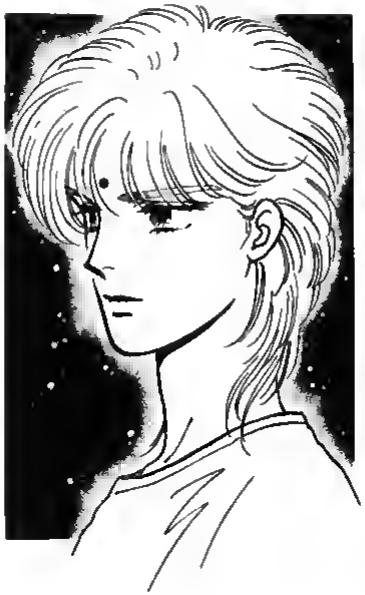

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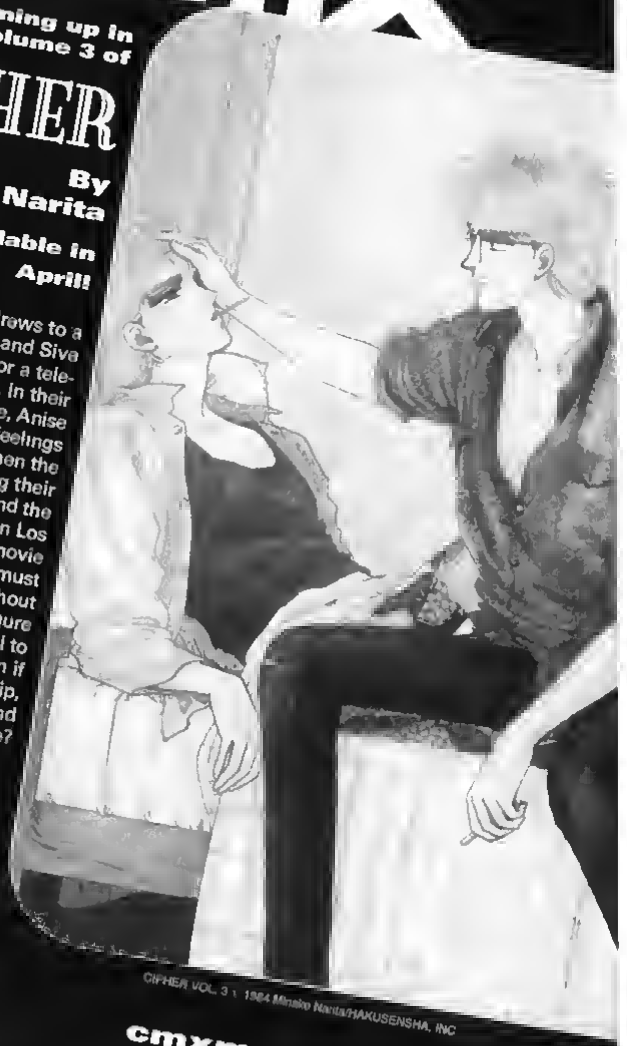
By Minako Narita

Available in April!

As spring draws to a close, Cipher and Siva leave school for a television job. In their absence, Anise explores her feelings for Cipher. When the brothers spring their plans to spend the summer in Los Angeles on a movie shoot, Anise must learn to live without the boys...or figure out a way to travel to Californie. But even if she makes the trip, what will she find when she gets there?



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TEEN
MILD PROFANITY

CIPHER

In modern New York City, a beautiful girl teaches twins that they must each have their own destinies.

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